United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit



APPELLANT'S APPENDIX

74-2183

In The

United States Court of Appeals

For The Second Circuit

ANONYMOUS, AN ATTORNEY ADMITTED TO PRACTICE IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK,

Plaintiff-Appellant,

VS.

THE ASSOCIATION OF THE BAR OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK and JOHN G. BONOMI, Chief Counsel, Committee on Grievances of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York,

Defendants-Appellees.

On Appeal from the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York.

APPELLANT'S APPENDIX

ANDERSON, RUSSEL, KILL & OLICK, P.C.

Attorneys for Plaintiff-Appellant
630 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York 10020
397-9700

(7674)

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DOCKET ENTRIES

1º JUDGE GRIESA

CIVIL DOCKET UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

Jury demand date:

74 CV. 2398

TITLE OF CASE			ATTORNEYS			
			aintiff:	USSELL, KI		LICK.F.
Practice in	an Attorney Admitted to the State of New York		AWDERSON, R 600 5th A	ve. NÝC 1	0020	541-816
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CITY OF NEW Chief Couns Orievances	TION OF THE BAR OF THE YORK and JOHN G. BONO el, Committee on of the Association of City of New york	κα,		•		
		John	deicndant: 'G. Bonomi,	Chief co	ounsel	for C
		on Gr 36 W.	ievances of	NYC 100	of Ba	tu 2-06
STATISTICAL RECORD	COSTS	DATE	NAME OR RECEIPT NO.	REC.		DISB.
J.S. 5 mailed X	Clerk	6/4/24	USTE K	N	N	
J.S. 6 mailed	Marshal					
Basis of Action:	Docket fee					
Civil-Rights-Action	Witness fees		1		-	
Prel. Injunction. to enj.	witness rees					
Action arose at:	Depositions					
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					11	

DATE	PROCEEDINGS	Date Order Judgment 1
un 4.71	Filed Complaint & issue summer. 4 Filed defts cross-motion & affdyt to dismiss the complaint. Ret 6-2 Filed defts affdyt in opposition to pltffs application for prelim.	
n.19-/	4 Filed defts cross-motion & affdyt to dismiss the complaint. Ret 6-2	4-74.
19-74	Filed derts attdvt in opposition to pltffs application for prelim.	In
	injunction.	
. 17-74	Filed defts memo in opposition to prelim. inj. & in support of dis-	
9-74	missal of the complaint. Filed pltffs supplemental affdvt in opposition to motion to dismiss	
9-74	Filed pltffs supplemental mean of law respecting the doctrine of	
	of federal abstention.	
24-74	Filed summons & return - served Association of the Bar of the City Of N.Y. 6-13-71	
-10-74	Filed transcript of record of proceedings, dated July 3, 1974	
3.1-74	Filed Opinion #41049. Pltffs motion for a preliminary injunction	
	is denied, & defts motion to dismiss the complt is granted.	
	So Ordered, GRIESA, I m/n Filed Pltff's Notice of appeal to USCA from the opinion & order dated 7-31-74	
g 27-74	Filed Patri's Notice of appeal to USCA from the opinion & order dated 7-31-74	
- 20 21	dismissing the pltff's complaint. Notice Mailed to John G. Bonomi, on 8-29-74.	
g 30-11	Filed Pltff's reply Memo in Support of a Preliminary Injunction.	
B 30-11	Filed Further Reply affidavit in support of Pltff's motion for a preliminary injunction and in ipposition to defts' cross-motion to dismiss.	
~ 20 71	Filed Reply affect. in support of pltff's motion for a preliminary injunction	
E 30-12	and affect. in opposit tion to defts' cross motion to dismiss.	
30-71	Filed Defts' supplementary affdyt, by Marry McDonald.	
e 30-71	Filed Defts' supplementary memo in opposition to preliminary Injunction, etc.	
30-74	Filed Pltff's Order to show Cause with a TRO for Preliminary Injunction ret. 6-17	74.
30-74	Filed Plftff's Memo. in support of a Preliminary Injunction.	140
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United States District Court

FOR THE

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

CIVIL	ACTION	FILE	No.	
	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,		140.	

ANONYMOUS, an Attorney Admitted to Practice in the State of New York,

Plaintiff

V.

SUMMONS

THE ASSOCIATION OF THE BAR OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK and JOHN G. BONOMI, Chief Counsel, Committee on Grievance of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York,

Defendants

To the above named Defendant :

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon ANDERSON, RUSSELL, KILL & OLICK, P.C.,

plaintiff's attorney S, whose address 600 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y.10020,

an answer to the complaint which is herewith served upon you, within 20 days after service of this summons upon you, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.

Clerk of Court,

Deputy Clerk.

Date: New York, New York

[Seal of Court]

100

COMPLAINT (Filed June 4, 1974)

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

ANONYMOUS, an Attorney Admitted to Practice in the State of New York,

Plaintiff,

-against-

COMPLAINT

THE ASSOCIATION OF THE BAR OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK and JOHN G. BONOMI, Chief Counsel, Committee on Grievances of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York.

74 Civ. 2398-TPG

Defendants.

Plaintiff, by his attorneys, ANDERSON, RUSSELL,

KILL & OLICK, P.C., for his complaint herein, alleges as follows:

JURISDICTION

- and Laws of the United States and is brought under Amendments V and XIV of the Constitution and Title 28 United States Code \$\$1331, 1343, 2201 and 2202 to declare as unconstitutional and void and to restrain and enjoin the enforcement of Sections 90 and 476a of the Judiciary Law of the State of New York, the Canons of Professional Ethics and Part 603 of the Rules of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of the State of New York in and for the First Department insofar as the same permit the use in disciplinary proceedings against attorneys of testimony elicited under a grant of immunity from prosecution following an attorney's exercise of his constitutional privilege against self-incrimination and thereby deny attorneys the equal protection of the law.
- 2. The matter in controversy exceeds the sum of \$10,000.00 exclusive of interest and costs.

Plaintiff, ANONYMOUS

, is

an attorney and counselor at law duly admitted to practice in the State of New York with offices and a principal place of business in the County, City and State of New York.

- Association of the Bar of the City of New York is an organization or association of attorneys with offices and a principal place of business in the County, City and State of New York, designated by Sections 476a and 90 of the Judiciary Law of the State of New York and Part 603 of the Ruler of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court held in and for the First Department to conduct preliminary investigation of professional misconduct through its Committee on Grievances and to recommend to the Courts and to prosecute before the Courts of the State of New York matters involving the discipline of attorneys.
- 5. Defendant, John G. Bonomi, is Chief Counsel to the Committee on Grievances of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York with offices and a principal place of business in the County, City and State of New York in which capacity he is the chief investigator and principal prosecutor in matters involving the discipline of attorneys.

CLAIM

6. Heretofore and on or about October 5, 1968, plaintiff was called to testify before a Grand Jury empanelled by the Supreme Court of the State of New York, held in and for the County of New York at which time he refused to testify

on the grounds, <u>inter alia</u>, that his answers, to the questions propounded might tend to incriminate him.

- 7. Thereupon the said Grand Jury, on recommendation of the District Attorney of New York County, granted plaintiff immunity from any state action or violation arising out of or incident to his testimony before it.
- 8. Plaintiff thereafter on October 5, 1968,
 November 15, 1968 and November 21, 1968 testified fully, freely
 and truthfully pursuant to such grant of immunity.
- 9. On or about April 16, 1974, defendants instituted disciplinary proceedings against plaintiff based solely and exclusively upon his testimony under grant of immunity before the New York County Grand Jury.
- plaintiff's application therefor, to preclude the use of plaintiff's said Grand Jury testimony and are now proceeding to use the same against him in hearings now pending before the Committee on Grievances of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York being prosecuted by defendant Bonomi, all in violation of plaintiff's rights under the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution.
- aforesaid actions in proceeding against plaintiff are based solely and exclusively on his testimony before a New York County Grand Jury under grant of immunity and are part of a plan and program designed to undermine and subvert the constitutional privilege against self-incrimination as applied to that class or category

1

of citizens known as attorneys and to deny them the equal protection of the laws and are part of a plan to employ disciplinary proceedings and threats of disbarment to discourage attorneys from exercising such constitutional rights.

Plaintiff has no adequate remedy at law.

WHEREFORE, plaintiff prays:

- (a) For an order granting a preliminary injunction in this action enjoining defendants, their representatives, agents and employees, and all those acting in concert with them from proceeding with disciplinary proceedings against plaintiff pending entry of final judgment herein; and
- (b) For entry of final judgment declaring that attorneys may not be subjected to disciplinary proceedings on the basis of judicially compelled testimony elicited under grants of immunity and permanently enjoining defendants, their representatives, agents and employees, and all those acting in concert with them, from disciplining plaintiff on the basis of such compelled testimony; and
- (c) For such other and further relief as to the Court may seem just and proper in the premi es, including the costs and disbursements of this action.

Dated: New York, New York June 3, 1974

ANDERSON, RUSSELL, KILL & OLICK, P.C., Attorneys for plaintiff

By: Steven M lesmen

A Member of the Firm 600 Fifth Avenue New York, New York 10020 (212) 541-8100

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE WHY A PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION SHOULD NOT BE GRANTED ENJOINING PROSECUTION OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDING WITH TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER

WITH TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

ANONYMOUS, an Attorney Admitted to Practice in the State of New York,

Plaintiff,

-against-

THE ASSOCIATION OF THE BAR OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK and JOHN G. BONOMI, Chief Counsel, Committee on Grievances of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York,

WITH A TEMPORARY

74 Civ. 2398 TPG

Defendants.

Upon the annexed Affidavit of Arthur S. Olick, Esq., sworn to the 3rd day of June, 1974, and the summons and complaint heretofore filed herein, it is

ORDERED, that defendants SHOW CAUSE before this Court a bust w weeker, to be held in Room 106, United States Courthouse, Foley Square, in the County, City and State of New York, on the 17th day of June, 1974, at 1975 o'clock in the forenoon of that day, or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard, why an order should not be made and entered herein pursuant to F.R.Civ. Proc. 65(a) granting plaintiff a preliminary injunction enjoining defendants, their representatives, agents and employees, and all those acting in concert with them, from prosecuting or otherwise maintaining any disciplinary proceedings against plaintiff pending the entry of final judgment herein predicated upon compelled testimony elicited from such plaintiff by means of a grant of immunity, such prosecution being repugnant to Amendments V and XIV of the Constitution of the United States, and for such other and further relief as to the Court may seem just and proper; and it is further

+PG

1PG

ORDERED, that until the hearing and determination of this motion defendants, their representatives, agents and employees, and all those acting in concert with them, be and they hereby are stayed pursuant to F.R.Civ. Proc. 65(b)

Using the aforesaid compelled testimony and with any disciplinary proceeding involving plain hiff before the powel structure assigned to this matter from proceeding with disciplinary proceedings, were pending

further security herein be waived, and it is

ORDERED, that service upon John G. Bonomi, Esq., counsel to the Committee on Grievances of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York of a copy of this Order, annexed and memorandum of law affidavit and summons and complaint on or before the 4th day of June, 1974, at 5:00 p.m. be deemed good and sufficient service thereof.

Dated: New York, New York June 4, 1974

ISSUED AT 145 P.M. 6/4/74

S/ Thomas P. Griesa

ANONYMOUS, an Attorney Admitted to Practice in the State of New York,

Plaintiff,

-against-

AFFIDAVIT

TOR A PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION

THE ASSOCIATION OF THE BAR OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK and JOHN G. BONOMI, Chief Counsel, Committee on Grievances of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York,

Defendants.

STATE OF NEW YORK)

COUNTY OF NEW YORK)

ARTHUR 5. OLICK, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

- I am a member of the firm of ANDERSON, RUSSELL,
 KILL & OLICK, P.C., attorneys for the plaintiff herein. As
 such I am familiar with the circumstances underlying this action.
- 2. I submit this affidavit in support of plaintiff's motion, brought on by Order to Show Cause, for a temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction.
- 3. Plaintiff is an attorney and counselor at law duly admitted to practice in the State of New York, who maintains his office in the County, City and State of New York.
- On October 18, 1968, plaintiff was called before a New York County Grand Jury and interrogated by Assistant District Attorney Frank J. Rogers, Esq., Plaintiff was interrogated concerning his relationships with two of his clients, Melvin Kaufman, a builder, and Ralph Elaychar. The District Attorney's Office was then investigating the possibility

money to be used to improperly influence certain New York City officials in connection with a matter pending before the New York City Board of Standards and Appeals.

5. When first called to testify, plaintiff invoked the privilege against self-incrimination and refused to answer the questions propounded to him by Mr. Rogers. Thereupon, Assistant District Attorney Rogers asked plaintiff to step out of the Jury Room and asked the Grand Jury to grant plaintiff immunity. Plaintiff was then granted immunity in the following language:

"The granting of immunity means you cannot be prosecuted for any State violation as a result of your testimony here today or documents that you may have produced here today. However, you can be prosecuted for the crime of perjury, or if you lie to this Grand Jury, tell the Jury something that is not truthful, and for the crime of contempt, if you refuse to answer a question, a legal, proper and relevant question, or if you give an answer that can be deemed to be evasive.

I remind you that immunity is still in effect and I also caution you that if this Grand Jury believes that you are avoiding or attempting to avoid giving answers to the questions or deliberately avoiding giving answers to questions, that you can be charged with contempt for that; and if you lie to this Grand Jury, that you can be charged with the crime of perjury.

As I explained before, those are the only two State crimes that you can be charged with as a result of your testimony here today or documents that you produce here..."

6. Pursuant to such grant of immunity, plaintiff testified at length before the New York County Grand Jury on October 18, 1968, November 15, 1968, and November 21, 1968. His testimony resulted in the indictment and ultimate conviction of both Messrs. Kaufman and Elaychar. That was the last plaintiff heard of the matter until 1973 when he suddenly learned, to his dismay, that the Association of the Bar of the City of New York, the ough its Committee on Grievances, was investigating his

12a

behavior.

- Grievances of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York of which John G. Bonomi, Esq., is Chief Counsel, charged plaintiff with professional misconduct and conduct prejudical to the administration of justice in violation of Section 90 of the Judiciary Law of the State of New York and Canons 15 (How Far a Lawyer May Go in Supporting a Client's Cause), 16 (Restraining Clients on Improprieties), 29 (Upholding the Honor of the Profession), and 32 (The Lawyer's Duty in its Last Analysis) of the Canons of Professional Ethics. A copy of the charge letter is annexed hereto as Exhibit "A" and made a part hereof.
- 8. On May 7th, 1974, the Committee on Grievances proceeded to present its case against the plaintiff. Counsel to the Committee acting by Mary McDonald, Esq., offered in evidence before a special panel of the Committee on Grievances the transcript of plaintiff's Grand Jury testimony. Deponent, as counsel to plaintiff, objected to the admission of the Grand Jury testimony on Constitutional grounds. The Committee reserved decision and retired to consider its ruling. Thereafter, deponent was advised by Miss McDonald that the Panel had overruled deponent's objection and that she was distributing copies of the Grand Jury testimony to the various members of the Panel in preparation for a further hearing now scheduled for 4;00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 4, 1974. Miss McDonald further advised deponent that she would rest her case against plaintiff on his Grand Jury testimony.

- It is clear that plaintiff ' hoice but to testify before the New York County Grand when Assistant District Attorney Rogers granted him what is tantamount to transactional immunity. To have failed to testify would have resulted in a contempt citation and inevitable conviction thereon. Having testified, plaintiff is now faced, some six years after the operative events, with disciplinary proceedings based entirely upon his compelled testimony which can result in his disbarment. It is submitted that disciplinary proceedings of this nature are criminal in nature and are entitled to the same Constitutional protections as are afforded in ordinary criminal cases. Certainly, plaintiff has at risk substantial rights in the nature of his ability to earn a livelihood. To permit the Bar Association and then the New York State Courts to proceed against attorneys solely on the basis of their compelled testimony under grants of immunity manifestly subverts the nature and intent of the Fifth Amendment privilege against self-incrimination.
- to the attention of the Bar Association by the New York County District Attorney's Office. This is the very same office that compelled plaintiff's testimony under a grant of immunity and promised plaintiff that he would not be subject to any State prosecution. It is apparent that the New York County District Attorney is proceeding against this plaintiff and other attorneys similarly situated in order to deprive them of their livelihood as punishment in circumstances where ordinary criminal proceedings are prohibited. This creates not only an unwarranted subversion of the Fifth Amendment privilege

against self-incrimination but also puts attorneys in the untenable position of second class citizens who can be discriminated against solely because they are licensed by the State.

- 11. Plaintiff proceeds herein by Order to Show Cause in order to secure a stay of the disciplinary proceedings now pending against plaintiff. Since plaintiff is a member of the Bar of the State of New York with offices here in New York County, he remains at all times subject to the jurisdiction of the State Court and there is no prejudice to the defendants as the result of the stay or preliminary injunction sought by this motion. Certainly, if the Bar Association could wait five to six years after the operative events to bring on disciplinary proceedings they can wait a few more weeks or months until the Federal Courts determine the Constitutional propriety of its proceeding in the first place.
- 12. The summons, complaint and these motion papers do not set forth the name of the plaintiff in order to avoid the inevitable and irreparable injury which must accompany such revelation. The very fact of the proceedings both before the Grand Jury and before the Bar Association will clearly have an adverse affect upon his reputation and his ability to earn a living as an attorney. Deponent submits to the Court with these papers a letter disclosing the identity of the plaintiff and requests that that letter be kept confidential. The defendants, of course, have been adviced of the institution of this action and the making of this motion and are fully aware of the identity of the plaintiff.

13. No previous application has been made for the relief sought herein.

ARTHUR S. OLICK

SWORN to before me this 3rd

day of June, 1974

Notary Public

STEVEN M. PESNER
Lictary Public, State of New York
No. 31-4506381
Outstand in New York County
Cultural suica Expired March 30, 1975

ROOM 914

AREA CODE 212

MURRAY HILL 2.0606

COMMITTÉE ON GRIEVANCES

OF

THE ASSOCIATION OF THE BAR OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK 36 WEST 44TH STREET NEW YORK N. Y. 10036

JOHN G. BONOMI

RONALD EISENMAN
SAUL FRIEDDERG
MORRIS GUTT
MARY MCDONALD
PAUL W. PICKELLE
ASSOCIATE COURSEL

April 16, 1974

MICHAEL AMBROSIO DAVID A COBIN IRVING GERTEL ASSISTANT COUNSEL

Personal & Confidential

The Committee on Grievances of The Association of the Bar of the City of New York will meet at 36 West 44th Street, New York, N.Y., 10036, Room 900, on Tuesday, May 7, 1974, at 4:00 P.M., to investigate your conduct and to determine whether, as has been alleged:

Charge

You have been guilty of professional misconduct and conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice in violation of Section 90 of the Judiciary Law of the State of New York and Canons 15 (How Far a Lawyer May Go in Supporting a Client's Cause), 16 (Restraining Clients From Improprieties), 29 (Upholding the Honor of the Profession), and 32 (The Lawyer's Duty in Its Last Analysis) of the Canons of Professional Ethics, effective until December 31, 1969, in that:

- 1. In or about December, 1965, one Melvyn Kaufman, a builder, requested your assistance in finding a means to delay approval of, or block entirely, an application for a zoning variance which was sought by one Sigmund Sommer and which was ultimately to be heard before the New York City Planning Commission.
- 2. You, thereafter, conferred with one Ralph Elyachar, another builder, concerning Kaufman's request and you sought Elyachar's assistance in obtaining the desired delay or blockage of the Sommer application.

- 3. Mr. Elyachar, thereafter, advised you that he would undertake, with the assistance of other individuals, to delay or block the Sommer application and he further advised you that Kaufman would have to pay a sum of money to be determined by the degree of success attained in either delaying or blocking the application.
- 4. During the aforesaid conversation, Elyachar refused to reveal to you the identity of the individuals who would be assisting him and he requested that his own identity be concealed from Kaufman.
- 5. At that time, you believed that the means to be employed by Kaufman and Elyachar in delaying or blocking the Sommer application were to be illegal and that the money to be paid did not constitute a legal fee.
- 6. Mr. Elyachar, thereafter, presented to you a written schedule of increasing payments to be made by Kaufman which varied depending upon the length of time for which the application was delayed or blocked.
- 7. You then presented the aforesaid payment schedule to Kaufman who made various changes on it and returned it to you.
- 8. You then returned the amended payment schedule to Elyachar who subsequently advised you that the amendments were acceptable and you, thereafter, communicated Elyachar's approval to Kaufman.
- 9. Kaufman thereupon advised you that he would make the initial payment, which you believed to be the sum of \$17,500.00, by withdrawing cash from his private vault and delivering the money to you in a box of wood sample? for transmittal to Elyachar.
- 10. On or about March 12, 1966, the box of wood samples was delivered to your office and pursuant to your instructions was given to Elyachar.
- 11. At this time, you believed that the money delivered to Elyachar did not constitute a legal fee but was to be used to influence the decisions of public officials.
- 12. You, thereafter, continued to act as an intermediary between Kaufman and Elyachar in regard to their aforesaid attempt to block or delay the Sommer application.

The Committee on Grievances directs that you file a written answer (an original and fifteen (15) copies) of the foregoing charge with its attorney at 36 West 44th Street, New York, N.Y. 10036, on or before May 1, 1974. Such answer is to specifically admit, deny or deny knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief with respect to the aforesaid paragraphs. If you fail to file an answer to each of the aforesaid paragraphs, it will be deemed admitted.

You are further directed to appear before the Committee on Grievances at the time and place specified in the first paragraph hereof when the Committee will hold a hearing with respect to the foregoing matters and to bring with you your entire files with respect to the matters referred to herein including all bank records with reference to the foregoing matters.

You are entitled to be represented by counsel to crossexamine witnesses and to present evidence in your own behalf.

In connection with the foregoing, your attention is directed to Judiciary Law, Section 90, Part 603 of the New York Court Rules and to By-Law XIX of the Association By-Laws.

Very truly yours,

JOHN G. BONOMI Chief Counsel

JGB MM
cc: Arthur S. Olick, Esq.
Attorney for Respondent
500 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York 10036

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

ANONYMOUS, an Attorney Admitted to : CROSS-MOTION TO Practice in the State of New York,

DISMISS COMPLAINT : 74 Civ. 2398 (TPG)

Plaintiff,

- against -

THE ASSOCIATION OF THE BAR OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK and JOHN G. BONOMI, Chief Counsel, Committee on Grievances of The Association of the : Bar of the City of New York,

Defendants. PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that upon the summons and complaint filed herein on June 4, 1974, the order to show cause filed herein requesting the grant of a preliminary injunction returnable June 24, 1974 at 4:00 o'clock in the afternoon, the affidavit of ARTHUR S. OLICK, Esq., sworn to June 3, 1974 in support thereof and the affidavit of MARY McDONALD, Esq., sworn to on June 17, 1974, in opposition thereto, defendants will cross-move this Court, on June 24, 1974 at 4:00 o'clock in the afternoon for an order pursuant to Rule 12(b)(6) to dismiss the action because the complaint fails to state a claim against defendants upon which relief can be granted.

Dated: New York, New York June 17, 1974.

> JOHN G. BONOMI CHIEF COUNSEL FOR THE COMMITTEE ON GRIEVANCES OF THE ASSOCIATION OF THE BAR OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK Attorney for Defendants
> Office & P.O. Address 36 West 44th Street New York, New York 10036 (212) MU 2-0606

TO:

Anderson, Russell, Kill & Olick, P.C. Attorneys for Plaintiff 600 Fifth Avenue New York, New York 10020

AFFIDAVIT IN OPPOSITION TO THE MOTION FOR A PRELIMINARY

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

ANONYMOUS, an Attorney Admitted to Practice in the State of New York,

AFFIDAVIT IN OPPOSITION

74 Civ. 2398 (TPG)

Plaintiff,

- against -

THE ASSOCIATION OF THE BAR OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK and JOHN G. BONOMI, Chief Counsel, Committee on Grievances of The Association of the Bar of the City of New York,

Defendants.

STATE OF NEW YORK :

: SS .:

COUNTY OF NEW YORK :

MARY McDONALD, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

- l. I am Associate Counsel to JOHN G. BONOMI, Chief Counsel for the Committee on Grievances of The Association of the Bar of the City of New York, a defendant herein and I make this affidavit on behalf of JOHN G. BONOMI and THE ASSOCIATION OF THE BAR OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK in opposition to plaintiff's application for a preliminary injunction enjoining defendants from prosecuting a disciplinary proceeding against plaintiff predicated upon plaintiff's compelled testimony pending the entry of a final judgment herein.
- 2. I am fully familiar with all the facts and Giffumstances relevant to this action being the attorney assigned by defendant BONOMI to the prosecution of a disciplinary proceeding against plaintiff.

HISTORY OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDING

3. On February 4, 1971, an order was entered in the Supreme Court of the State of New York, County of New York, authorizing the release to the Committee on Grievances of the

Grand Jury minutes of the Fourth December, 1967 Grand Jury in a matter entitled <u>People v. John Doe</u>; the Fifth June, 1968 Grand Jury minutes in a matter entitled <u>People v. Harry Hca</u>; and the Fifth October, 1968 Grand Jury minutes in a matter entitled <u>People v. John Doe</u>, all being inquiries involving an attorney, Michael Freyberg, who was convicted of the crime of perjusy in the third degree on December 17, 1970.

- 4. In or about March, 1971, the above Grand Jury transcripts were turned over to defendant's Committee on Grievances by the office of the District Attorney for New York County. Also on or about such date, Assistant District Attorney Francis J. Rogers, the attorney who presented the People's evidence before the above Grand Juries, indicated to Counsel for the Committee on Grievances that the transcripts also included testimony concerning two other attorneys practicing in the First Judicial Department, Herbert Itkin and the plaintiff herein.
- 5. Thereafter, disciplinary proceedings were initiated against Michael Freyberg and Herbert Itkin by the Committee on Grievances and a review of the transcripts in question brought to light the testimony given by plaintiff on October 18, 1968, November 15, 1968 and November 21, 1968, before the Fifth October, 1968 Grand Jury under a grant of immunity.
- 6. In testifying, plaintiff outlined the role he played in 1965 and 1966 on behalf of his client, Melvyn Kaufman, in an attempt to delay approval of, or block entirely, as application for a zoning variance which was to be presented before a New York City Agency.

- 7. Further inquiry was made into this matter by counsel for the Committee on Grievances and on January 11, 1973, a communication was addressed to plaintiff requesting that he appear at the office of the Committee for the purpose of discussing the matter. Plaintiff was advised therein of his right to be represented by counsel.
- 8. Thereafter, plaintiff retained eminent counsel, well-versed in the law of discipline, who requested permission to submit a written statement by plaintiff concerning his role in the 1965-66 events rather than an initial personal appearance at the office of counsel for the Committee. Such request was granted by your deponent.
- 9. Thereafter, plaintiff submitted a twenty-five page statement, signed by him and dated April 26, 1973, in which he described his role in the 1965-66 events in thorough detail and, in substance, provided all the information contained in his earlier Grand Jury testimony. Such statement was voluntarily given and plaintiff was under no compulsion to do so.
- 10. As a result of the evidence then before it, on May 31, 1973, counsel for the Committee on Grievances instituted a disciplinary proceeding against plaintiff by duly serving upon him a notice containing the charge levied against him and alleging the facts upon which it was based.
- thereto substantially admitting the facts as set forth by counsel for the Committee on Grievances, but denying knowledge of any illegality which may have been involved in the above mentioned attempt to delay approval of, or block entirely, an application for a zoning variance.

- 12. On June 21, 1973, a hearing was held on the charge before a panel of the Committee on Grievances and counsel for the Committee rested its case on plaintiff's Grand Jury testimony and his statement of April 26, 1973, which were received into evidence without objection by plaintiff, who was represented by counsel at all times.
- 13. Plaintiff testified in his own behalf and was cross-examined by counsel for the Committee and the members of the panel. After deliberation on the matter, the panel sustained the charge against plaintiff and recommended that a disciplinary proceeding be initiated against him in the Supreme Court of the State of New York, Appellate Division, First Department.
- of the Committee on Grievances to be granted a new hearing and after due consideration such application was granted in order to allow plaintiff the benefit of a change in the procedures of the Committee on Grievances not available to him at the time of the first hearing.
- served with a notice of the charge instituting a new proceeding. On May 30, 1974, after deliberation by the panel of the Committee on Grievances hearing the matter, plaintiff's Grand Jury testimony was received into evidence over, plaintiff's objection that utilization thereof in a disciplinary proceeding violated his constitutional privilege against self-incrimination.
- of a preliminary injunction enjoining the Association of the Bar of the City of New York and John G. Bonomi, Chief Counsel

for its Committee on Grievances, from prosecuting a disciplinary proceeding against him predicated upon his Grand Jury testimony given under grant of immunity.

17. As the record will show; simultaneously with the filing of this affidavit in opposition, defendants are filing a cross-motion requesting the dismissal of the complaint herein. If such motion is granted, the question of whether or not a preliminary injunction should be granted shall become moot. If such motion were denied, defendants submit there are several compelling reasons why a preliminary injunction should not be granted.

FURTHER DELAY OF THE DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDING WOULD BE DETRIMENTAL

- conduct in the 1965 and 1966 events was unprofessional and as such would warrant discipline after review by the Appellate Division, First Department. It is the unfortunate fact that these events, and plaintiff's participation therein, did not become fully known to the law enforcement agencies of New York City until 1968 when grand jury inquiries were conducted.
- 19. Thereafter, defendants were not given transcripts of the grand jury testimony until 1971 when the office
 of the New York County District Attorney had concluded its use
 of them and its prosecution of various individuals involved in
 the inquiry was concluded.
- various priorities had to be established as to the use thereof and it was determined that they would first be utilized in the prosecution of an attorney who had already been convicted of a crime and Herbert Itkin and subsequently would be used in a proceeding against plaintiff.

- 21. Once such a proceeding was instituted and a hearing had therein, the matter was never moved into the Appellate Division due to the fact that plaintiff made application for a rehearing, which application was considered and granted.
- 22. Thus it is obvious that numerous roadblocks have slowed the swift prosecution of this matter. If plaintiff is guilty of serious professional misconduct, as is alleged by defendants, any further delay in this matter would be most regretable and is certainly to be avoided.
- ceeding may not be instituted in the Appellate Division until

 1) a hearing is first held before a panel of the Committee on
 Grievances and such panel sustains the charge and recommends
 prosecution in the courts; 2) such recommendation is approved
 by the Executive Committee of The Association of the Bar of
 the City of New York and 3) an order is entered by the Appellate Division appointing counsel for the Committee on
 Grievances as prosecutors for the matter.
- 24. Obviously, counsel for the Committee is only launched on the initial stage of the process and through no fault of its own is attempting to prosecute a matter, as speedily as possible, whose operative facts concern events occuring in 1965 and 1966.
- 25. Plaintiff is the last remaining attorney to be prosecuted for his conduct in these events (the others having already been disciplined) and defendants are faced with the unfortunate and serious circumstance of having to contend with the defense of laches and such defense becomes stronger and stronger as the months go by. Furthermore, the interests of the public and the bar are less and less served when

disciplinary proceedings become so prolonged and where the possibility exists that an attorney guilty of wrongdoing continues in the practice of law.

- 26. Thus it is imperative that a matter, already frought with delay, not be further impeded and unnecessarily prolonged. On the other hand, it is contended that the continued prosecution of this matter is in no way unduly prejudicial to plaintiff.
- 27. First of all, until there is a hearing by the panel of the Committee on Grievances assigned to this matter, and a decision rendered on the merits, there is no way of knowing whether or not a proceeding would be initiated in the Appellate Division.
- 28. However, assuming for argument's sake that the panel does sustain the charge against plaintiff and does recommend prosecution in the Appellate Division, a <u>de novo</u> proceeding must be initiated there, at which time plaintiff would no doubt again register his objection to the introduction of his Grand Jury testimony. He does not lose the right to press any objections he may have because of adverse rulings by a panel of the Committee on Grievances.
- 29. Defendants contend that the Appellate Division is the proper forum for a determination on the merits of such an objection and contend that his present application to the federal courts is premature.
- 30. In conclusion on this point, defendants contend that no purpose would be served in enjoining them from use of plaintiff's Grand Jury testimony during preliminary proceedings and such immediate use would prevent the further delay of this serious matter.

- 31. Defendants commenced a disciplinary proceeding against plaintiff under the duties imposed upon them by Section 90 of the Judiciary Law of New York State. Their use of plaintiff's Grand Jury testimony is not offensive to his 5th and 14th amendment privileges and said use is in full accordance with well-established New York law.
- 32. Defendants are legally in possession of the transcript of plaintiff's Grand Jury testimony such being duly obtained by court order.
- new or untried procedure in using such testimony in proving its charge against plaintiff. As is set forth more fully in defendants' brief, the New York cases are clear and undisputed in the holding that compelled testimony may be used in the prosecution of a disciplinary proceeding. Further, the Supreme Court has refused to upset such holdings.
- 34. Defendants should not be precluded from or delayed in the performance of their tasks such being the expeditious prosecution of plaintiff's matter.

PLAINTIFF HAS WAIVED HIS RIGHT TO OBJECT TO THE USE OF HIS COMPELLED TESTIMONY IN A DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDING

detailed statement, dated April 26, 1973, to counsel for the Committee on Grievances in which he frankly and candidly admitted the extent of his involvment in the attempt to influence City officials. Further, in later responding to the charge filed against him in the first proceeding, he requested that such statement be deemed a part of his formal answer which he submitted on June 13, 1973.

- 36. Moreover, on June 21, 1973, the date of the first hearing, plaintiff testified in his own behalf and did not assert his 5th Amendment privilege against self-incrimination to any of the questions posed by counsel for the Committee or the panel members. During the entire proceeding plaintiff was represented by competent counsel who is specialized in the field of discipline. Further, respondent's compelled testimony was received into evidence without objection by plaintiff.
- 37. Plaintiff now contends that to use his compelled testimony is offensive to his Constitutional privilege against self-incrimination and yet one year ago he freely admitted in writing, and orally under oath, his entire role in the 1965-66 events and, in effect, threw himself upon the mercy of the panel hearing the matter.
- 38. Defendants contend that even if his privileges against self-incrimination were violated by use of his compelled testimony, he is now precluded from availing himself of his 5th Amendment privilege since he has effectively waived the invocation of such privilege.
- 39. It would appear to be patently unjust for the federal courts to enjoin defendants from now using plaintiff's compelled testimony which has been resworn to by plaintiff and, in effect, even elaborated upon by him, while he was under no compulsion to do so.

DEFENDANTS SHOULD NOT BE ENJOINED FROM COMMENCING A NEW DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDING AGAINST PLAINTIFF BASED ON EVIDENCE INDEPENDENT OF HIS COMPELLED TESTIMONY

40. Even if this Court decided that a preliminary injunction should be granted in plaintiff's favor, such

injunction should extend only to the use of his compelled testimony. A preliminary injunction, if entered, should not preclude the use of other available evidence against plaintiff. As noted above, defendants have in their possession evidence which could be used in proving the charge against plaintiff independent of his compelled testimony. Plaintiff has put forward no reason why a preliminary injunction should be directed at proceedings in general against plaintiff, but has only offered reason why a proceeding using his compelled testimony should be enjoined.

41. Therefore, while defendants argue no preliminary injunction should be granted, if one were to be entered, it should be limited to a prohibition against a proceeding based upon plaintiff's compelled testimony only.

PLAINTIFF HAS FAILED TO PROVE THAT HE WILL SUFFER 1. REPARABLE INJURY UNLESS AN INJUNCTION IS GRANTED

- 42. Plaintiff has failed to demonstrate that he would suffer irreparable injury by having to pursue his remedies and/or request for injunctive relief in the state courts by first applying to the Appellate Division.
- by plaintiff. Plaintiff cannot be disciplined unless the defendants initiate an action against him in the Appellate Division and then only if the charge against him is sustained. At the present time, proceedings against plaintiff are at a preliminary level and plaintiff's request for injunctive relief, if appropriate at all, should be made to the Appellate Division. During the progress of such application, plaintiff would remain a member in good standing of the New York Bar.

WHEREFORE, defendants pray that an order be entered herein denying a preliminary injunction in this action and further pray for such other and further relief as to the Court may seem just and proper.

Sworn to before me this 17th day of June, 1974.

me il

MARY MCDONALD

JOAN BILA

MOTARY PUBLIC, State of New York

No. 24-5318315

Qualified in Kings County

Commission Expires March 30, 1976

REPLY AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF THE MOTION FOR A PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION AND IN OPPOSITION TO THE CROSS-MOTION TO DISMISS

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

ANONYMOUS, an Attorney Admitted to Practice in the State of New York, : 74 Civ. 2398 (TPG)

Plaintiff, : REPLY AFFIDAVIT IN

-against-

SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFF'S : MOTION FOR A PRELIMINARY

THE ASSOCIATION OF THE BAR OF THE : IN OPPOSITION TO CITY OF NEW YORK and JOHN G. BONOMI, Chief Counsel, Committee on Grievances of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York,

INJUNCTION AND AFFIDAVIT

DEFENDANTS' CROSS MOTION : TO DISMISS

Defendants.

STATE OF NEW YORK)) ss.: COUNTY OF NEW YORK)

ARTHUR S. OLICK, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

- I am a member of the firm of ANDERSON, RUSSELL, KILL & OLICK, P.C., attorneys for the plaintiff-attorney herein. I submit this affidavit in reply to the opposing affidavit of Mary McDonald, Esq., associate counsel to the defendants and in further support of plaintiff's motion for a preliminary injunction herein. I also submit this affidavit in opposition to defendants' cross-motion to dismiss the complaint for failure to state a claim.
- In this action plaintiff seeks to prevent the continuation of disciplinary proceedings before the Bar Association predicated upon testimony elicited from him by a New York County Grand Jury under a grant of immunity after plaintiff asserted his rights under the Fifth Amendment. The complaint

seeks a declaratory judgment and an injunction predicated upon the simple proposition that disciplinary proceedings against an attorney are quasi-criminal in nature and may not be founded solely upon the use of tainted or immunized testimony.

injunction which defendants seek to prevent, on the grounds that (a) plaintiff was somehow linked with the notorious Michael Freyberg, Herbert Itkin, James Marcus scandal; (b) the instant application is premature since the State Courts have not yet acted; (c) the Constitutional privilege claimed by plaintiff is inapplicable under "well established New York Law"; (d) the plaintiff has somehow waived his right to object to the use of his compelled testimony; and (e) there is no irreparable harm to the plaintiff if he is disbarred or disciplined in violation of his Constitutional rights. Deponent submits that each of these arguments is patently untenable.

THE TRUE HISTORY OF THE DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDING

affidavit of the alleged "history" of the disciplinary proceeding against plaintiff is replete with omissions and distortions. It is gratuitously sprinkled with numerous references to other attorneys who have been convicted of crimes, references to "prosecutions", "discipline" and bribery. Defendants obviously seek to impugn plaintiff's character without trial by linking him with the notorious Michael Freyberg and Herbert Itkin who, together with the infamous James Marcus, were involved in numerous corrupt activities during the course of the Lindsay administration in New York City. In truth and in fact this

plaintiff had no connection with Freyberg, Itkin or Marcus and neither the New York County District Attorney nor the Grievance Committee of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York has uncovered a scintilla of evidence linking plaintiff with any of these persons. Defendants have in their possession the Grand Jury testimony and the testimony taken in the disciplinary proceedings involving attorney Michael Freyberg, Lindsay's former Tax Commissioner. This testimony discloses that neither Itkin, Marcus nor Freyberg ever knew or were aware of the plaintiff or had anything to do with him. The Grand Jury minutes of Freyberg's testimony (pp. 240-2) discloses that, in truth and in fact, Freyberg did not even have any dealings with Ralph Elyachar, the builder with whom plaintiff allegedly conferred on behalf of Melvyn Kaufman and to whom plaintiff allegedly caused a sum of money to be delivered, until after March 12, 1966, the date on which the Grievance Committee alleges that a sum of money changed hands. Thus, the evidence already in the hands of the Grievance Committee establishes that this plaintiff could not possibly have had anything to do with Freyberg, Itkin or, for that matter, James Marcus, as is suggested by the opposing papers, presumably in an effort to inflame the Court. Nowhere in Freyberg's testimony in the possession of the defendants is there any mention of the plaintiff. Freyberg did testify that he introduced Elyachar to Itkin and/or Marcus but this occurred during the Fall of 1966, long after plaintiff's dealings with Elyachar. Freyberg was suspended from practice for three years for lying to a Grand Jury about the 1966 kickback scandal involving Marcus and the Jerome Reservoir - not the matter charged against this plaintiff. Itkin was charged with bribing Marcus and

resigned from the bar. Plaintiff was clearly not involved with either of them although defendants imply otherwise. The opposing papers constitute a clear manifestation of defendants' lack of good faith in proceeding against this plaintiff some eight years after the events of which they complain.

- The matters set forth in the charge letter 5. annexed to the moving papers herein as Exhibit "A" have never resulted in any Grand Jury indictment or other criminal complaint. Significantly, the facts elicited before the Grand Jury do not even constitute a crime. However, they do represent a charge of unethical practice sufficient to warrant disciplinary proceedings including disbarment. They are predicated upon events which occurred in 1966. Nevertheless, it was not until February 4, 1971 (some five years later) that defendants procured the Grand Jury testimony underlying their proceedings against the plaintiff and it was not until January 11, 1973 (seven years after the operative events and two years after defendants procured the Grand Jury testimony) that defendants first initiated any inquiry concerning plaintiff's alleged unethical behavior. In these circumstances, it ill becomes defendants to contend that "further delay of the disciplinary proceedings would be detrimental" or that the public interest demands prompt action.
- 6. It was in 1967 that Federal and State
 Grand Juries heard evidence concerning the criminal activities
 of Michael Freyberg, Attorney Herbert Itkin and former New York
 City Water Commissioner, James Marcus. It was in February 1969,
 that Ralph Elyachar, a real estate man and builder, was charged

by a New York County Grand Jury with perjury in connection with Messrs. Freyberg, Itkin and Marcus. It was on December 18, 1967 that Itkin and Marcus were first indicted for bribery and kickbacks involving a New York City reservoir cleaning contract. The indictments of Itkin and Marcus and the events surrounding their criminal activities were widely publicized. The publicity which appeared in the New York Press made prominent mention of Michael Freyberg, Esq. Plaintiff was not prominently mentioned although his name did appear in one or two newspaper articles in February of 1969 in connection with the perjury indictment of Ralph Elyachar. The Grievance Committee took no action until February 4, 1971, when, according to Miss McDonald's affidavit, an order was procured from the Supreme Court, New York County, authorizing the New York County Grand Jury "to release the minutes of the 4th December 1967 Grand Jury in a matter entitled "People v. John Doe," the 5th June 1968 Grand Jury in a matter entitled "People v. Harry Hoe", and the 5th October 1968 Grand Jury in a matter entitled "People v. John Doe" to the Committee on Grievances of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York." The order releasing these Grand Jury minutes was procured at the behest of Francis J. Rogers, Assistant District Attorney in New York County, in connection with "inquiries involving a complaint against Michael Freyberg, an attorney ... " Fortuitously and unbeknownst to plaintiff, his Grand Jury testimony was part of the testimony released to the Bar Association in the Freyberg affair. According to Miss McDonald's affidavit, the Bar Association proceeded against Michael Freyberg after his perjury conviction on December 17, 1970. Only testimony concerning Attorney Freyberg was sought and only

testimony concerning Mr. Freyberg was released by the Supreme Court to the Grievance Committee. A copy of the Court's order of February 4, 1971 releasing the subject Grand Jury testimony is annexed hereto as Exhibit "A" and made a part hereof. Upon examination of the testimony, the defendants discovered the plaintiff's testimony given under a grant of transactional immunity. Still, defendants did nothing until January 11, 1973, when defendants sent plaintiff the letter annexed hereto as Exhibit "B" and made a part hereof referring to a "newspaper article" in a vain attempt to afford legitimacy to their belated efforts. It is submitted that the defendants are not only violating plaintiff's Constitutional rights in attempting to use his Grand Jury testimony but that they are also violating New York law in attempting to use Grand Jury testimony released in connection with proceedings against Michael Freyberg and not with respect to plaintiff.

against plaintiff were thus instituted on the basis of tainted evidence on January 11, 1973. Confronted with this evidence the plaintiff clearly did not deny his sworn testimony but, rather, freely admitted what defendants already knew and sought to explain that he had no knowledge of Elyachar's activities or intentions, no knowledge of Itkin, Freyberg or Marcus and absolutely no intention to commit an illegal, improper or unethical act. This is the "voluntary" statement of April 26, 1973, referred to in paragraph 9 of Miss McDonald's affidavit. Certainly, if the defendants are not entitled to use the Grand Jury testimony elicited from plaintiff under a grant of immunity they can take no solace from the fact that plaintiff, when

-

confronted with that testimony, affirmed its accuracy. If defendants are barred from using immunized testimony, they are likewise barred from utilizing the fruits derived from the use of such immunized testimony.

8. It is indeed correct, as noted by Miss McDonald, that formal charges were made by defendants on May 31, 1973; that plaintiff answered those charges on June 13, 1973; and that a hearing on those charges was first held on June 21, 1973. The 1973 hearing resulted in a finding that the charges were sustained and further disciplinary proceedings were recommended. However, the 1973 proceedings were vacated in their entirety. Deponent, as substitute counsel for plaintiff, protested to the Chairman of the Committee on Grievances demanding that the prior proceedings be vacated and that they be started de novo by reason of the Committee's irregularities involving the denial to the plaintiff of fundamental rights of due process and specifically, involving the use by the Committee of plaintiff's immunized testimony before the Grand Jury. Miss McDonald's statement that a new hearing was granted "to allow plaintiff the benefit in the change of procedures of the Committee on Grievances not available to him at the time of the first hearing" is both misleading and unsubstantiated. No reason was ascribed by the Chairman of the Committee on Grievances for the grant of deponent's application on plaintiff's behalf for a new hearing. Moreover, the "procedures... not available" at the time of the first hearing relate to corrective actions taken by the defendants after deponent protested that the plaintiff and other attorneys similarly situated were being

denied their procedural due process rights under then existing practices of the Grievance Committee.

9. Proceedings were recommenced by the defendants on April 16, 1974 when a new "charge letter" was served. An answer to this charge letter was interposed and a new hearing was had at which Miss McDonald, as the prosecuting attorney for the defendants, offered the tainted Grand Jury testimony and deponent objected. The Panel of the Grievance Committee hearing the matter reserved decision after hearing argument and then overruled the objection. Only when the objection was overruled and the Grand Jury testimony was admitted into evidence before the Panel was this action instituted and the instant motion for a preliminary injunction sought. Thus, the only matter now before this Court is the propriety of deponent's objection in the 1974 proceedings and not the defendants' conceded violations of plaintiff's rights in connection with the 1973 proceedings.

DEFENDANTS ARE ESTOPPED BY THEIR OWN LACHES FROM CON-TENDING THAT FURTHER DELAY IS DETRIMENTAL

abstension on the grounds that delay of the pending disciplinary proceedings is somehow detrimental to the public interest. As indicated above, the defendants themselves delayed many years before bringing the instant proceedings. They knew of plaintiff as early as 1969 [Exhibit "B"] and were aware of Michael Freyberg's activities even earlier. Defendants contend that they waited, in the exercise of their own discretion, until after

Freyberg's conviction to seek evidence for a disciplinary proceeding against him. They apparently chose not to proceed solely on the basis of Freyberg's conviction but, rather, to embellish their prosecution of Freyberg with evidence procured from his Grand Jury testimony. This, they obtained in February 1971.

Defendants waited another two years before making any inquiry in connection with the plaintiff's activities. They first inquired into plaintiff's activities in 1973. Another year went by before the second hearing was scheduled. In the light of these facts, it can hardly be said that the sudden claim of "public necessity" by defendants is now made in good faith.

- their own priorities and determined that the plaintiff was the least important of the attorneys to be prosecuted for any connection, no matter how remote, with the Freyberg-Itkin-Marcus affair. Having made such a determination, defendants should not now be permitted to claim that time is of the essence.
- contention that the instant proceeding in Federal Court is premature. By virtue of Section 90 of the New York Judiciary Law and Rule 603.12 of the Rules of the Appellate Division, First Department, the Committee on Grievances of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York is the administrative arm of the State Court in connection with the prosecution and discipline of attorneys. As Miss McDonald points out in paragraph 23 of her opposing affidavit, the pending hearing before a Panel of the Committee is a necessary preliminary step in the process of disbarment, a patently punitive action which inexorably results

in the deprivation of an attorney's livelihood. The futility of awaiting the determination of the defendants and of the Appellate Division is manifested by the fact that, as Miss McDonald notes, the New York Court of Appeals has refused to recognize a lawyer's immunity from prosecution in a disciplinary proceeding based upon Grand Jury testimony elicited on the waiver of Fifth Amendment and Fourth Amendment rights. Moreover, a Panel of the Grievance Committee has previously found that the charges against plaintiff were sustained solely by reason of his Grand Jury testimony, otherwise immunized, so that it is unlikely that a second panel would come to a different conclusion. As clearly as night follows day and day follows night, if this Court does not intervene, the charges against plaintiff will be sustained and his Constitutional rights violated.

THERE HAS BEEN NO WAIVER ON PLAINTIFF'S PART OF HIS RIGHT TO OBJECT TO THE USE OF COMPELLED TESTIMONY

his right to protest the infringement of his Consitutional rights by reason of the events which occurred in connection with the prior proceedings, now voided by the defendants themselves. This shocking contention ignores the fact that plaintiff was granted a de novo hearing before the Committee on Grievances which, in effect, "wiped out" any errors or omissions in these prior proceedings. More important, defendants' argument is legally untenable. If plaintiff is entitled to prevent the use of his compelled testimony in a disciplinary proceeding then he need not deny its very existence. If such testimony is immune or privileged, it simply may not be used for any purpose whether or not the plaintiff, under further compulsion, admits that such

testimony was given.

- At the time plaintiff was first called before the Grievance Committee he was admonished that if he failed to "cooperate" with the Grievance Committee he would be subjected to discipline for that reason. Instead of appearing uncooperative, instead of perjuring himself, instead of denying the existence of the material already in the hands of his prosecutors, plaintiff sought to explain that nothing in his Grand Jury testimony related to any criminal act on his part or, for that matter, any unethical activity. In essence, his "detailed statement" of April 26, 1973 sought to refute the operative allegation in the charge letter that in March of 1966 plaintiff "believed that the means to be employed by Kaufman and Elyachar in delaying or blocking the Sommer application were to be illegal and that the money to be paid did not constitute a legal fee." While seeking to explain his lack of complicity and culpability plaintiff did, indeed, point out to the defendants that his testimony was compelled under a grant of immunity but this claim was brushed aside. These facts hardly constitute the waiver of any Constitutional privilege. They certainly do not constitute such a waiver in light of the fact that the prior proceedings were vacated.
- 15. It is indeed curious that Miss McDonald, in paragraph 28 of her opposing affidavit, aruges that plaintiff "does not lose the right to press any objections he may have because of adverse rulings by a Panel of the Committee on Grievances..." while in paragraph 38 of her affidavit she contends "that even if his privileges against self-incrimination

were violated by use of his compelled testimony, he is now precluded from availing himself of his Fifth Amendment privilege since he has effectively waived the invocation of such privilege." The waiver is founded upon an alleged failure to properly object during the course of the prior proceedings which are now vacated and void, proceedings which Miss McDonald claims are not binding upon the Appellate Division. Deponent submits that the defendants simply cannot have it both ways.

PLAINTIFF WILL SUFFER IRREPARABLE INJURY UNLESS THIS COURT GRANTS INJUNCTIVE RELIEF

- before the Grievance Committee and before the Appellate Division will be fruitless insofar as plaintiff's Constitutional rights are concerned. The highest State Court has already made it clear that it will not recognize plaintiff's Constitutional rights so that only Federal intervention can assure plaintiff of any protection.
- proceedings to continue does not only result in a financial drain on the plaintiff but also has a chilling affect on his ability to practice law. The pendence of disciplinary proceedings while ostensibly secret, has become known to certain clients and adversaries to plaintiff's decided detriment. Defendants are well aware of this. The pendency of the disciplinary proceedings has cast a pall over plaintiff's activities on behalf of his clients and has consumed inordinate amounts of time and attention. In these circumstances, to subject the plaintiff to the obviously futile procedures set forth in paragraph 23 of Miss McDonald's opposing affidavit would constitute, in and of itself, punitive action.

- in proceeding against this plaintiff. They have waited inordinate amounts of time before taking action. They have sought to utilize Grand Jury testimony obtained not only under a grant of immunity but as the result of a completely different inquiry. They have sought to use Grand Jury testimony not specifically released to them by the Court, as required by law. They proceeded initially against the plaintiff in a manner which denied him substantial rights of due process. They now proceed to obfuscate the real issues here by attempting to link plaintiff with Messrs. Freyberg, Itkin and Marcus knowing full well that plaintiff never had any connection with these persons and that the Grand Jury inquiry in connection with which plaintiff testified never resulted in any indictments relating to bribery or corruption of public officials.
- defendants herein is the specious proposition that somehow attorneys are <u>sui generis</u> and not entitled to the same Constitutional protections afforded other citizens. The patent injustice of such a proposition was recently noted by Attorney General William B. Saxbe in an interview on a National Public Affairs Center for Television broadcast. Commenting on the prosectuions of attorneys involved in the Watergate affair he remarked that:
 - "... we are running the danger at the present time of cutting the cloth to fit on these cases and that we're using extralegal means, the threat of disbarment, the threat of exposure. Well, these are not legal and have no part in the proceedings in justice. We're using these to smoke people out and that we're using light sentences and we're using all kinds of inducements to make cases, and that we're walking the narrow line between really running a Justice Department or a justice system in this country and running a kind of kangaroo court where any ends -- any means justify the ends."

"I think that we walk that narrow line. And I have mentioned before that this idea of circumventing the Fifth Amendment by offering immunity and then trying to make them testify and then to prosecute them when they don't is a device that we should re-examine."

[Emphasis added].

and has testified truthfully before a Grand Jury conducting an inquiry into the crimes of others. He did so under compulsion, waiving his 5th Amendment privilege under a broad and unlimited grant of immunity. Because he earns his livelihood as an attorney rather than in some other capacity, the District Attorney and the defendants would punish him for exercising his constitutional rights. This Court should not permit such manifest injustice.

WHEREFORE, deponent respectfully prays that the motion to dismiss the complaint be denied and that the motion for a preliminary injunction be granted in all respects.

ARTHUR S. OLICK

SWORN to before me this 2nd day

of) July, 1974

Notary Public

STEVEN M. PESNER
Notary Public, State of New York
No. 31-4506881
Qualified in New York County
Commission Expires March 30, 1975

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF NEW YORK

in the Matter

Of

Authorizing the release of the minutes of the Fourth December 1967 Grand Jury in a matter entitled People v. John Doe, the Fifth June 1968 Grand Jury in a matter entitled People v. Harry Hoe, and the Fifth October 1968 Grand Jury in a matter entitled People v. John Doe to the Committee : on Grievances of the Bar of the City of New York.

OPDER

WHEREAS, it appears from the affidavit of Francis J. Rogars, Assistant District Attorney, dated February , 1971, that the interests of justice would be furthered by releasing to the Committee on Grievances of the Assoiciation of the Bar of the City of New York the Grand Jury minutes of the Pourth December 1967 Grand Jury in a matter entitled People v. John Doe, the Fifth June 1968 Grand Jury in a matter entitled People v. Harry Hoe, and the Fifth October 1968 Grand Jury in a matter entitled People v. John Doe, all being inquiries involving a complaint against Michael Freyberg, an attorney, it is therefore hereby

ORDERED, that the District Attorney of the County of New York is hereby authorized to release the minutes of the Fourth December 1967 Grand Jury in a matter entitled People v. Bohn Doe, the Fifth June 1968 Grand Jury in a matter entitled People ve Harry Hoe, and the Fifth October 1968 Grand Jury in a matter entitled People ve Harry Hoe, and the Fifth October 1968 Grand Jury in a matter entitled People v. John Doe to the Committee on Grievances of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York

Justice of the Supreme Court

Dated: This day of February, 1971.

COMMITTEE ON GRIEVANCES

OF
THE ASSOCIATION OF THE BAR

OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

36 WEST 44TH STREET

NEW YORK, N. Y. 10036

ROOM 914

AREA CODE 212 MURRAY HILL 2-0608

IN G. BONOMI

NALD EISENMAN
NICK J. MOYNIHAN
UL W. PICKELLE
BERT L FICHTER
FOCIATE COUNSEL

HAEL AMBROSIO
ITH IL CARNEY
AVID A COBIN
ARY MCDONALD

January 11, 1973

PERSONAL

Re: Newspaper Article

This Committee is presently reviewing the conduct of certain attorneys who appeared before the Grand Jury of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, New York County, in 1968 relative to an investigation into the possible undue influence upon the New York City Planning Commission. The district attorney of New York County has forwarded to us the Grand Jury minutes relative to this matter and we have reviewed your testimony given before that body in October and November 1968. Please come to the office of this Committee at 2:30 P.M. on Thursday, January 25, 1973, bringing with you any files or other information you may have relative to this matter. We wish to discuss your testimony with you and you of course have the right to be represented by counsel at that time.

Very truly yours,

Mary McDonald Assistant Counsel

MI

	TRANSCRIPT OF THE JULY 3, 1974 HEARING ON THE MOTIONS FOR A PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION AND TO	47a
1	mcs DISMISS	
2	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT	
3	SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK	
4	x	
5	ANONYMOUS, :	
6	Plaintiff, :	
7	vs. : 74 Civ. 2398	
8	THE ASSOICATION OF THE BAR OF THE : CITY OF NEW YORK. :	
9	Defendant. :	
10		
11	х	•
12	Before:	
13	HON. THOMAS P. GRIESA,	
14	District Judge.	
	New York, July 3, 1974;	
15	10.30 o'clock a.m. (Room 906)	
16		
17	APPEARANCES:	
18	ANDERSON, RUSSELL, KILL & OLICK, Esqs.,	
19	Attorneys for Plaintiff; BY: ARTHUR OLICK, Esq., and	
20	STEVEN M. PESNER, Esq., Of Counsel.	
21	MARY McDONALD, Esq.,	
22	Attorney for Defendant.	
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case?

THE COURT: I don't understand why it took so long to get the reply memorandum. Who is here for the plaintiff?

MR. OLICK: I am, your Honor, Arthur Olick.

THE COURT: Mr. Olick, you had the defendants materials about June 19.

MR. OLICK: That is correct.

THE COURT: Now I get, five minutes before the hearing or at the time of the hearing, a reply memorandum and a reply affidavit dealing with a question of law you must have known was in the picture from the very beginning. Why wasn't it given me before this? Why do we have a hearing in a situation where I can't get prepared for it?

MR. OLICK: That is my fault, your Honor.

It is a matter, of course, involving an attorney and I have been working very closely with the attorney involved here, and every piece of paper has been gone over in great detail over a period of time. I apologize to the Court for the fact that it was delayed. We had not wanted to ask for any further adjournments.

THE COURT: All right.

Do you deal in your papers with the Erdmann

MR. OLICK: Yes, your Honor.

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1 3 2 THE COURT: Where is that dealt with? Where is your discussion of Erdmann? 3 MR. OLICK: It is on page 8 of the reply brief. 4 5 (Pause.) 6 THE COURT: That only quotes that portion of 7

Erdmann characterizing the disbarment in a quasi-criminal proceeding. Where is your discussion of Frdmann on the abstention point?

MR. OLICK: With respect to the abstention point, your Honor, the discussion of the doctrine of abstention commences on page 11.

THE COURT: Where is the discussion of Erdmann in that portion of your brief?

MR. OLICK: Erdmann specifically is not discussed there.

THE COURT: Isn't that the most germane case on the abstention point? That is a case dealing directly with the question of whether there should be abstention by a Federal District Court at the time of a disciplinary proceeding in the New York State Courts.

How do you distinguish Erdmann from the present case?

MR. OLICK: On the basis, your Honor, of the decision of the United States Supreme Court two years ago

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in Steffel versus Thompson. In Steffel v. Thompson we have the Court considering the --

THE COURT: What did Steffel v. Thompson deal with?

Steffel v. Thompson dealt with this question of abstention and distinguished between what is tantamount to an administrative type proceeding, where the case has not actually gotten into the courts and thereby removed the requirement under Younger v. Harris, which the Erdmann case looked to, of showing bad faith in the prosecution.

Since we are asking here essentially for a declaratory judgment and injunction involving the action of the Bar Association's Grievance Committee in a proceeding that has not yet gotten to the Courts, we believe under the doctrine of Steffel v. Thompson decisions like Erdmann, which are predicated on prior law, are not applicable.

with respect to the doctrine of Federal abstention it is our position that we do not have to demonstate, although we think we have them inserted, bad faith in terms of the prosecution of this case as well as the substantial constitutional right. We are asking for a declaratory judgment and injunction against the Bar Association and the Grievance Committee from proceeding, and under the Steffel v. Thompson doctrine unless there is

a State Court criminal prosecution --

THE COURT: Do you have a copy of the Steffel case with you?

MR. OLICK: I do not, your Honor. It is 410 U. S. 953. It may not be in the bound volume.

Our position on Federal abstention is that we do not have here a Federal Court criminal prosecution for purposes of abstention.

I would draw this distinction.

THE COURT: The thing is that Erdmann in a sense went off on two grounds. One was what Judge Mansfield seems to have characterized a disbarment proceeding. Here is what he says, and this in 458 Federal 2d 1209. He said that:

"A Court's preliminary proceeding against a member of its bar is comparable to a criminal matter than to a civil proceeding,"

and then there is further discussion on page 1210 and he quotes Ruffalo, the Supreme Court case, as stating that:

"Disbarment proceedings are of a quasicriminal nature,"

and he also, it seems to me, goes off on what really is an independent ground in applying the Younger and that is that the relationship between the State Courts and the attorneys practicing before those Courts is a delicate one and one

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6 in which the State Courts have a particularly close 2 interest and where the Federal Courts should be very loathe 3 to interfere. My law clerk called up and said the citation 5 you gave, 410 U. S. 953, is the granting of cert. 6 MR. OLICK: Tell him to look at 39 Law Addition, 7 2nd, 505. 8 THE COURT: We don't have it. Is it a 1974 9 case? 10 MR. OLICK: A 1974 case. 11 THE COURT: Tell the law clerk to look in Law 12 Week; that it is a 1974 case, Steffel v. Thompson. 13 MR. OLICK: If I may address myself to those 14 two points --15 THE COURT: I'm not finished. 16 Judge Lumbard, it seems to me, very carefully 17 refrained from calling a disbarment proceeding a criminal or 18 quasi-criminal proceeding, and his ground for the applica-19 tion of the abstention doctrine was stated at page 1213, and 20 he said: 21 "While these principles were stated in cases 22 involving straight criminal proceedings, I believe 23 that they apply with equal force to proceedings 24 regarding the conduct of members of the bar. Thus, 25

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when State Courts do initiate an inquiry into 2 attorney's conduct they deal with a matter of such great importance to the State and its citizens that the Federal Courts should be as slow to interfere In these proceedings as in State criminal proceedings."

Now, in light of that I would like you to tell me what the facts were in Steffel against Thompson. I will get the case up here, but let's start analyzing that and see if it really undercuts the basic rationale of Erdmann.

MR. OLICK: Your Honor, first, it doesn't deal with an attorney per se.

THE COURT: What does it deal with?

MR. OLICK: I don't have the facts right here. but the gravamen of the decision was that in dealing with Younger v. Harris when you are faced with a constitutional issue under the Federal Constitution that the abstention doctrine is further limited by requiring that there be an actual State proceeding, not a proceeding preliminary to a State proceeding, not an administrative proceeding which leads to a State proceeding, but where there is a threat of such a State proceeding in the future and you are faced with an administrative determination, Younger v. Harris doesn't require that you abstain except for a showing of

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bad faith.

Now, there is a distinction that we make which

we think is important and it relates to what Judge

Mansfield was doing in Erdmann. It is true that in the

Ruffalo case in dealing with an attorney in a constitutional
issue the Court held that disciplinary proceedings were

quasi-criminal in nature. We believe that is correct

with respect to the merits of the constitutional claim and

we cite that case for that proposition. But that is in
a different context from the doctrine of abstention.

In the case of an abstention under the Steffel doctrine and under the Dumbrowski v. Pfister doctrine, despite Younger v. Harris, you have to show in order to invoke the abstention doctrine that you have an actual State prosecution. Where you don't have an actual State prosecution abstention does not apply despite the fact that on the constitutional issue, which is a separate issue, we feel that the Fifth Amendment privilege is applicable here because a disbarment is quasi-criminal for this purpose.

THE COURT: I can see a possible distinction depending on the purpose.

MR. OLICK: That is right.

THE COURT: The distinction, I thought, that was

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really made in the cases was that for the purposes of abstention the proceeding would be treated like the criminal proceeding in Younger. The same considerations would apply, but for the sake of the Fifth Amendment it would not be treated as a criminal proceeding. Anyway, let's face the Younger problem first.

MR. OLICK: We are arguing just the reverse of that.

THE COURT: I know that. Let me just take a minute to read the Steffel against Thompson decision, if you don't mind. Why don't you just sit down.

MR. OLICK: All right.

(Pause.)

Steffel against Thompson did not involve any administrative proceeding preparatory to actual Court proceedings. It involved a situation where people are told that they had to stop distributing leaflets and if they didn't they would be prosecuted under a State law, so they were in the position of, as Justice Brennan, pointed out of being threatened with criminal prosecution as an inducement to get them to stop their activity; but there wasn't any actual prosecution in being which they could actually test, the activity where there was the consitutional questions.

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I think that it does not undercut Erdmann at all. I would feel bound by Erdmann.

MR. OLICK: There is another aspect.

Assuming, argumendo, that the Erdmann standard remains and that the Court treats a disciplinary proceeding as part of a State prosecution, nevertheless under the Younger v. Harris doctrine as enunciated in Erdmann, there is no Federal abstention it is demonstrated that there is bad faith in the prosecution as well as a substantial infringement of constitutional right. We maintain here that there are sufficient facts to raise the question of bad faith. The facts fundamentally, your Honor, are these:

The operative facts involving this attorney's activities took place in 1966. The grand jury testimony took place in 1968. In 1968-1969 there were one or two newspaper articles which actually mentioned the names of the principals involved here and two of them I know of at that time mentioned the name of this attorney. It wasn't until 1971 that the Bar Association, in connection with its investigation and subsequent disbarment proceedings against Michael Freyberg, the former president of the New York City Tax Commission, asked for grand jury minutes.

In 1971 the Court in New York County granted the

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application on an affidavit of Assistant District Attorney Francis Rogers, who was the prosecutor in these investigations in connection with the matter of Mr. Freyberg, and released the minutes involving the Freyberg investigations.

Apparently part of what was released was the testimony of this particular attorney.

THE COURT: So that brought the name of this particular attorney in 1971 to the attention of the Grievance Committee?

MR. OLICK: That is true. Nothing happens before 1973.

THE COURT: Is that bad faith in the sense of those cases that follow Younger? What kind of bad faith are they talking about? Isn't it bad faith in this regard:

That if a plaintiff can prove that criminal prosecutions aren't really being used in the normal, bona fide sense of prosecuting somebody or what is regarded to be a crime, but there is the use of multiple criminal prosecutions, or extraordinary delay or something that indicates that the criminal prosecutions re being used as a weapon to, say, stop blacks from voting or as a weapon to ach ieve some purpose beyond the normal enforcement of the criminal laws, in my understanding that is the bad faith

 that the Courts are talking about; isn't that right?

MR. OLICK: That is what has happened in particular cases, but the bad faith here --

THE COURT: What is the Supreme Court talking about when they are talking about bad faith in the context of the Younger problem?

MR. OLICK: What they are talking about in terms of bath faith is some extraordinary or different set of circumstances that is not in the normal course of a criminal prosecution.

THE COURT: Has anybody ever held that a twoyear delay in getting to a problem is a kind of bad faith that the Supreme Court is talking about in the Younger line of cases?

MR. OLICK: You never have to reach that case in that situation in a criminal prosecution because you have statutes of limitations. Here you have no statute of limitations. It is not just a two year delay by any means.

THE COURT: Is there any contention that the Grievance Committee is doing anything here other than with a motive to determine whether the man should be disciplined or not? There is is indication that this is being done for a corrupt purpose or motive. That doesn't appear on

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2 its face, such as for some personal vindictiveness or 3 hurting the man politically.

MR. OLICK: Not by reason of any political activities, his race, color, creed, national origin or anything of that kind.

THE COURT: Nor any personal vindictiveness.

MR. OLICK: What has happened here is the fact that what was adduced in the entire investigation led only to perjury indictments of other people. No crimes were committed. This particular individual was not in any way linked -- the grand jury testimony not only of himself but of Mr. Freyberg and others discloses he wasn't linked and he didn't know Marcus, Itkin or the rest of these people. He wasn't involved with them at all. In fact, the Marcus-Itkin affair was after the facts involving him. It just happened that one of the persons he dealt with later was put in touch with Marcus-Itkin and that is how the whole thing developed. He hasn't been accused of any crime. Nobody who was involved with him was accused of any substantive crime, only perjury, and then, when they refused to tell about it, then they went all these years before coming after him. They knew about this in 1969. They didn't even get his testimony under proper sources. Just incidentally the order involves Freyberg.

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THE COURT: Did the Grievance Committee have his name before they got the testimony in 1971?

MR. OLICK: They say in their charge regarding the newspaper article that the only newspaper articles were dated no later than 1969 that had his name. They must have had his name before then. There isn't a newspaper article in the country we can find later than 1969. There were only two in New York at the time that ever mentioned his name. They say, "Re newspaper article." They didn't do anything until 1973.

THE COURT: Did they have the newspaper article, consider that there was a disciplinary offense, and then intentionally delay?

MR. OLICK: Your Honor, it is impossible to show that they intentionally delayed.

THE COURT: A newspaper article is now used by them as some part of the charges, but you are talking about bad faith.

Do you claim that they have been considering this matter since 1969 as to your client and have intentionally deferred it until 1973; is that what you are claiming?

MR. OLICK: I am not claiming an intentional delay because I don't know, but I submit that it is bad faith even if it is negligent delay.

THE COURT: But you don't claim that they actually focused on this matter until at least 1971 when they got the grand jury testimony, do you?

MR. OLICK: I don't know what they did between 1969 and 1971.

THE COURT: All right.

MR. OLICK: But from 1971 to 1973 they had the grand jury testimony. They waited another two years.

THE COURT: Let's get to the period 1971 to

1973. Let's assume that they really for one reason or

another didn't focus on the matter until 1971 or some time
when they were reviewing this grand jury testimony.

What is the bad faith in waiting until 1973?

Didn't they go ahead with a couple of others first?

MR. OLICK: The only one they went ahead with was Mr. Freyberg.

THE COURT: Right.

MR. OLICK: They waited until Mr. Freyberg was convicted of perjury for his testimony before the grand jury. They asked for his testimony before the grand jury and the testimony involved in the Freyberg matter, and they got the testimony which included apparently this attorney as well. They then proceeded against Mr. Freyberg who

THE COURT: This is in 1971?

MR. OLICK: Yes. They then proceeded against Mr. Freyberg and there was nothing to stop them from proceeding against this attorney as well because nothing involved in the Freyberg matter related to the events charged against this attorney. Mr. Freyberg isn't even mentioned in the testimony of my client because he never met him, he never knew him, and they know that because even in Mr. Freyberg's testimony before the grand jury, which they have made available, there is no reference to these particular events with which this attorney is charged.

They then wait two years, from February
4th, 1971 to January of 1973, before pursuing this attorney.

There is no statute of limitations as such, but submit to this Court that it is bad faith to delay that long. If this man is a threat of any kind, if there is unethical practice, there must be some rule of diligence, of proceeding promptly against him. There isn't.

They could have waited another 10 years and come against him. This charge, already in 1973 --

THE COURT: Did you represent the plaintiff in the proceedings that were commenced last year before the Association of the Bar?

MR. OLICK: I did not.

THE COURT: Why is it you did not disclose those proceedings to me in your original affidavit? What did you think would happen? Did you think I wouldn't have my attention called to those?

MR. OLICK: Your Honor, the 1973 proceedings on my position were vacated for a whole series of irregularities which we characterized as denials of due process rights. The Bar Association saw fit to vacate those proceedings.

THE COURT: Why did you not mention those proceedings in your affidavit?

MR. OLICK: Because I didn't think it was fair to mention them because they had been vacated and wiped out.

I didn't want to come into court and attack the Bar

Association for things they had corrected. They gave

my client an entirely new hearing and corrected --

THE COURT: We have been talking about time.

Isn't it relevant, extremely relevant, to have me know all of the facts about what happened beginning in the spring of 1973?

MR. OLICK: Yes, but that argument only relates to Younger v. Harris, and until the doctrine of abstention was raised as a defense that wasn't at issue and all those facts are in the papers that are now before you.

I did not want to attack the Bar Association for any kind of bad faith, even laches or delay.

THE COURT: On what grounds did you persuade the Bar Association to grant a rehearing? Is that a matter of record in anyway?

MR. OLICK: It is a matter of record before the Bar Association. I have no hesitancy in telling your Monor. I didn't bring it before the Court because they have corrected it. It is in three specific --

THE COURT: What was it?

MR. OLICK: No. 1, at the hearing the chairman of the Grievance Committee appeared. He had not been scheduled to be on the panel and he walked into the room. He sat down and said, "If you don't mind, I am going to sit on this panel," Mr. so-and-so attorney "and your counsel here. I know I am not scheduled. If you have no objection, I would like to appear. By the way, I know I have one matter with your office, Mr. Attorney. Do you object?"

It happened suddenly. The fact of the matter was there were three or four other matters of which the chairman apparently was not aware which had not been disclosed, which were even more material. That was one of the issues.

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THE COURT: One of the issues was whether the claim should sit, actually sit on the panel. He actually sat on the panel. Of course, the rules of the Bar Association give every attorney in a grievance proceeding a right to challenge both for cause and peremptorily.

That was decided?

MR. OLICK: Yes, that was taken care of. We got a new hearing.

The second ground was that in the charge letter it was the practice of or has been the practice of the Grievance Committee that if there have been any prior proceedings going back 10, 15, 5, 4, 3, any number of years, in the accusations, that is put right at the beginning. It is as if in an indictment in a criminal case the indictment charged that in 1922 he was convicted of grand larceny; in 1952 he was charged with such and such and was admonished. It is all put in.

Our contention was that this is a denial of due process because it prevents a fair adjudication of the particular charges. That is no longer the practice of the Grievance Committee. It is not in this case. That had been done previously.

The third major ground --

THE COURT: I don't understand the significance

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MR. OLICK: Yes, your Honor. My point is that if a man is given immunity before the grand jury he walks out and the press asks him "What is it all about?"

He can tell them what happened and he will still be immunized. He hasn't waived his privilege. If he is immunized, he is immunized. If you grant someone immunity he has immunity from prosecution against those transactions. It is not imposed upon him that he remain secret about them.

In this case they didn't go out and talk to the press. They brought the man in and said, "We have your grand jury testimony. We know all about that. There it is."

New York law. New York law will not recognize this constitutional right. It is futile to go through the New York procedures and practice. We know positively what the New York Courts have done with this until the Supreme Court or the Federal Courts, which I submit to your Honor are the best interpreters and holders of the Federal constitutional rights, and I believe that is this Court's function to interpret and apply Federal constitutional law, despite the State's. Until that happens there is no point in going through the State Court proceedings. We

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70a 1 CS know precisely what the State Courts will do. They have 2 3 5 6 7 8 9 livelihood. 10 THE COURT: He was represented by counsel? MR. OLICK: Yes. THE COURT: It was a different counsel? MR. OLICK: Yes. raising?

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considered this point many times. I don't believe when the Supreme Court will ultimately get an appeal from the decision of the State Courts on a matter of this sort or when a Federal Court's State position will be sustained. Other States have now gone the other way.

The Federal doctrine is developing daily. I am dealing here with a particular attorney who is fighting for his

THE COURT: They did not raise the point you are

MR. OLICK: They raised it informally, not on the record. It was a matter of discussion. It was not raised on the record. Miss McDonald knows how it was raised.

I submit that that doesn't precluse us from raising it when the hearing has been vacated. Moreover, I submit that even if that hearing was before the Court and had gone up, there is not a waiver because a waiver of a constitutional right must be clear, explicit and intentional

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and not just inadvertent.

Here we have had a reversal. It is tantamount to having a trial before a nes prius court. Even if you are reversed, you can still go back and raise your objection. It is a de novo trial. That is what we have here.

THE COURT: Was this one ofthe grounds?

MR. OLICK: It was one of the grounds. I don't know on what grounds the Bar Association granted my application. I am very pleased that the two prior, what I call mistakes or denials of his rights, have not been repeated. I am delighted that is not before the Court. His rights are now protected. But when I talk about a two-year delay I am going back to 1973 in January. They had the minutes in 1971. The first proceeding, the first charge letter, the charge inquiry -- it wasn't even a charge letter -- was in January 1973. That is when they first called him in. The events took place in 1966. You can imagine the raction of the attorney all these years after this occurred.

THE COURT: Your point about it being fruitless to go through the New York Courts because you say it is a foregone conclusion --

MR. OLICK: The cases are legion and modern.

THE COURT: Let's assume that in general, just

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assume for purposes of discussion so that we can get this to this point, that the doctrine of abstension would normally apply here. What I want to try to get to is this:

Is there any relaxation of that doctrine simply because the conclusion of the State Court would be foregone?

I don't know of any such relaxation.

Have You got a case on that?

MR. OLICK: No, I do not.

What the Courts have done In many cases is drawn the distinction between actual criminal prosecution. They have looked at in terms of the stage at which the proceedings are brought.

In the Tang case, for example, in the Second Circuit, it went off on the issue the State Court had already decided the constitutional issue which was res adjudicate and they wouldn't let the Federal Court intervene because the State Court had decided that, and you had to go through that procedure. You had to follow the ordinary procedure. You have got to do this. You have got to raise your Federal constitutional issue in a Federal Court at the proper time, even that, or you have to go through the route of applying for certiorari. We submit we don't at the very inception of the proceeding.

THE COURT: The choice is whether you are supposed to go the route of the State Court and then certiorari, and then whether you can come into the Federal Court.

I gather that the identity of this plaintiff was not revealed beyond the confines of the Par Association proceeding of what went on in 1973; is that right?

MR. OLICK: Not officially. Unfortunately there have been several instances where the question has been raised in courts with his clients. The information has gotten out. How, I do not know. I cannot charge the Bar Association.

THE COURT: Are those things supposed to be officially confidential?

MR. OLICK: Officially they are.

MISS McDONALD: And they were confidential.

MR. OLICK: The only people who know about it are the people on the Bar Association Grievance Committee, counsel --

THE COURT: But at least as far as what the intention is, the intention is to have those things confidential?

MR. OLICK: Yes.

THE COURT: Let's suppose that a matter does get

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through the Grievance Committee at the Bar Association and is referred to the Appellate Division and they start their proceedings.

Now, the proceedings in the Appellate Division, are they public or are they confidential?

MISS McDONALD: Likewise confidential according to Section 9-D of the New York State Judiciary Law.

THE COURT: When does it become public?

MR. OLICK: When the Appellate Division approves or disaffirms a Referee's report unless the Appellate decides to keep it confidential.

Is that right?

MISS McDONALD: That is right.

THE COURT: The Appellate appoints a Referee?

MR. OLICK: The Bar Association holds a hearing and if they recommend that the matter go further -- they can admonish, dismiss or recommend that the matter goes further. If that is approved by the Executive Committee it then goes to the Appellate Division.

The counsel for the Grievance Committee normally acts as prosecutor. The Appellate Division appoints a Referee or Hearing Examiner to take testimony. He then makes a report to the Appellate Division and the Appellate Division makes a determination based on his report and

recommendation.

THE COURT: Let's focus for a minute on something I would like to ask Miss McDonald.

Is there a statutory authorization for the activity of the Bar Association Grievance Committee?

MISS McDONALD: Yes, there is. It is also in Section 9-D of the Judiciary Law.

THE COURT: What part of Section 9-D?

MISS McDONALD: I am not sure of the subsection.

It is also found in 603.12 of the Appellate Division Rules,

First Department.

THE COURT: Have you looked at Section 90?

You cited it. Would you direct my attention to what that part talks about? Either the Bar Association expressly or something that would authorize the use of that type of organization.

(Pause.)

MR. OLICK: While she is checking that, your Honor, I can point out that we cite at page 11 of our reply, Rule 603.2 of the Appellate Division rules of the First Department. We specifically mention the Association of the Bar and two cases which have laid out the authority of the Grievance Committee. They are cited on page 11.

THE COURT: Page 11 of what?

MR. OLICK: Of our reply brief.

MISS McDONALD: The specific designation is in the Appellate Division Rules and it is noted in Subsection 8 of Section 90 when it discusses who may appeal from the decision of the Appellate Division. It indicates that a petitioner, who may be a Bar Association -- indicating that Bar Associations are the petitioners in these types of cases -- but for the First Department the Appellate Division specifically names The Association of the Bar of the City of New York.

THE COURT: I am a little at a loss because I haven't read the papers that were given to me this morning. I had hoped to put a decision right on the record, but I certainly want to read the reply papers.

What is the problem about the schedule? The Bar Association is now retrained from going forward; is that right?

MISS McDONALD: That is true.

THE COURT: With an order signed or really on consent until the hearing and a determination of this motion -- what would be the desire of the Bar Association as far as their scheduling?

MISS McDONALD: At the present time our hearings have been suspended for a summer recess, so even if we

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duction. At that time the charge letter and the

plaintiff's answer were introduced into evidence.

THE COURT: Did the charge 1 etter and then his -- was there an answer filed In this proceeding?

MISS McDONALD: Yes, there was. There was an answer filed. Those were introduced.

THE COURT: Is that part of this record?

MISS McDONALD: I don't believe it is.

THE COURT: Shouldn't I have that?

MR. OLICK: I will submit it. The operative allegations of the charge letter are denied. There is no narrative.

THE COURT: In other words, he didn't make a written statement?

MR. OLICK: No, he did not.

THE COURT: So it is basically a denial?

MR. OLICK: Yes, basically it is a denial, your Honor.

I would just like to point whereas what Miss McDonald says about an attorney is correct, that is, about an attorney not being compelled to testify and to invoke his rights, I would point out to the Court that attorneys are often cited and disciplined for failure to cooperate with the Committee, so that they do have that

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hazard. If you refuse to cooperate, that is a disciplinary offense.

THE COURT: Let's get the chronology. In this current proceeding there was the charge letter and an answer in the form of, basically, a denial without any affirmative statement; right?

MISS McDONALD: Correct.

THE COURT: Then on --

MISS McDONALD: May 14.

THE COURT: On May 14?

MISS McDONALD: Yes, 1974.

THE COURT: Or is it the May 7 date?

was the original date for the hearing. The panel was convened. Mr. Olick appeared on behalf of his client. The hearing was commenced. We introduced the charge letter and the answer and offered into evidence a transcript of the plaintiff's grand jury testimony. At that time argument was heard for and against the entry of that evidence and later briefs were submitted by both sides.

Approximately 10 days later the Chairman of the panel, after polling the members of the panel, advised me that the grand jury minutes would be received into evidence, and the hearing was rescheduled.

1 CS 35 THE COURT: And it was rescheduled for the June 2 4 date? 3 4 MISS McDONALD: Correct. THE COURT: What I would like to get from you 5 6 is this: If the hearing had been continued on June 4 7 or if it was to be continued at any time now, what wo uld 8 you intend to do as far as a case. You, of course, will 9 introduce the grand jury testimony which is now admissible 10 by the Grievance Committee. 11 12 MISS McDONALD: Right. THE COURT: Do you intend to do anything else? 13 MISS McDONALD:: Originally I had intended not 14 to put in any other evidence as part of our affirmative 15 case and I intended to use the plaintiff's April 1973 16 statement as rebuttal evicence. However, at that initial 17 hearing where argument was heard and the introduction of 18 the minutes, a panel member posed a question to Mr. Olick, 19 such as this: 20 If your client does appear here will he invoke 21

his Fifth Arendment privilege; will he refuse to testify? Mr. Olick said, "Yes."

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That changed the complexion of things. After hearing that it would be my intent to put the 1973 statement CS

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in as part of our affirmative case.

THE COURT: In other words, I gather from the colloguy that the lawyer would not put on any case of his own; right?

> MISS McDONALD: Correct.

THE COURT: He wouldn't come and testify?

MISS McDONALD: Or he would come and invoke his Fifth Amendment privilege.

THE COURT: If you subpoensed him; right? You did not, I take it, after the colloquy intend to subpoena him and ask him to testify?

MISS McDONALD: No, it was my belief that he was going to voluntarily appear and invoke his Fifth Amendment privilege. If I thought for some reason he was not going to appear at all, I would have subpoenaed him, so it would be on the record that he invoked his privilege. His non-cooperation with our Committee would fall into the realm of not even showing up, ignoring us completely, not coming and invoking his privilege: but if they cooperate to the extent that the respondent, the defendant in the proceeding appears, and then invokes his Fifth Amendment privilege, that is not cooperation with our Committee. He is invoking a privilege that is available to him.

THE COURT: He gets notice of a hearing and

1 CS 37 presumably he would normally be expected to say something? 2 In other words, you would normally expect him to come 3 without a subpoena; right? 4 5 MISS McDONALD: Yes. On certain occasions a 6 lawyer might not. 7 THE COURT: So, then, if he does not come you usually subpoena him; right? 8 9 MISS McDONALD: We subpoena him or just proceed without him, and in a case where an attorney would not 10 appear at a disciplinary proceeding it is usually the 11 conclusion that the matter should be referred to the 12 Appellate Division for further prosecution. 13 14 THE COURT: I think we are getting into too many fine points here. Let me just go back. This may be 15 16 repetitious. 17 Your original thought was to introduce the grand 18 jury testimony. 19 MISS McDONALD: Right. THE COURT: This would be the kind of case where 20 you would expect him, if he was cooperating, to come and 21 22 testify; right? 23 MISS McDONALD: Correct. 24 THE COURT: And you expected that to happen with-25 out a subpoena; right?

MISS McDONALD: Right, yes.

THE COURT: Now, then, after the colloquy you realized that whether he came with a subpoena or without a subpoena he would simply invoke the Fifth Amendment?

MISS McDONALD: Yes.

THE COURT: Then you decided as to the April,
1973 written statement which you had originally intended
to use on rebuttal, you would now use as part of your direct
case?

MISS McDONALD: Correct.

mony, to try to introduce the testimony that he had given in the earlier hearing?

MISS McDONALD: Definitely not. We went to great extremes to immunize the panel hearing the case from all knowledge of that 1973 proceeding.

MR. OLICK: Correct.

THE COURT: One final question:

If a lawyer comes and invokes the Fifth Amendment and you believe that that is for some reason improper, do you have any power to direct him to answer? Do you have contempt power?

MISS McDONALD: No.

THE COURT: Your only sanction is to treat it as

a consideration in connection with --

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MISS MCDONALD. Not over an array

MISS McDONALD: Not even as a consideration.

According to Spivak versus Klein, an attorney may in a disciplinary proceeding invoke his Fifth Amendment privilege and no advse --

immunized, this raises another question I thought you were getting at in your brief. I thought you were drawing a distinction between two problems about privilege against self-incrimination, one where the privilege is allowed to be invoked in an administrative proceeding because of the possible use of the testimony in subsequent criminal proceedings. Let's put that as problem No. 1. That, I guess, was the problem in Garrity and the Sanitation Men's case; right?

MISS McDONALD: Correct.

attorney comes into the administrative proceeding and he wants immunity strictly to protect himself against the administrative proceeding. I don't suppose he would ever say it that way, but that would -- you can certainly have -- you have a different problem if you are worrying about whether he should be immunized from the sanctions of the administrative proceeding and whether he would be

2 | immunized from future criminal prosecution.

As I understand Zuckerman and Klebanof, there is no right to invoke the privilege against self-incrimination to protect yourself against the disciplinary proceedings; right?

MISS McDONALD: Correct.

in who has been given immunity from criminal prosecution, as in this case, and I think as in the Klebanoff case, and so there is no realistic possibility of the use of this testimony in criminal proceedings against him. But he is then asked to testify before the Bar Association's Grievance Committee and he invokes the privilege, the Fifth Amendment privilege.

Now, does the Grievance Committee have any procedure to determine the validity of his claim of privilege and to deal with him if it believes that his claim of privilege is invalid?

MISS McDONALD: Well, that particular problem has never presented itself to the Grievance Committee because in cases where the individual, an attorney, has already been granted immunity, we have in our possession the transcript of his grand jury testimony given under immunity which generally implicates him in wrongdoing. We don't need

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the attorney to actually take the stand and testify further.

THE COURT: So the answer to my question would be that you haven't had the occasion to think in terms of applying sanctions against him in that instance?

MISS McDONALD: Correct. It has never been necessary. That situation could in the future certain arise, but to date it has not been necessary to have any contempt proceeding initiated against the attorney to attempt to force him to testify.

THE COURT: Going back to the point of your intention in this proceeding, if it had gone on or would go on in the future, you would now and would have on June 4 introduced the grand jury testimony, introduced his prior written statement, and you would rest?

MISS McDONALD: Correct.

THE COURT: You don't have any independent evidence, so to speak, or other evidence to be presented against him, do you?

MISS McDONALD: At this point we do not have any concrete independent evidence because it has not been necessary for us to pursue it. However, we do feel that we have two strong leads on the obtaining of independent evidence. These include two individuals who were links also in this chain; that the plaintiff was also a link with

1	cs 42
2	the individual before him and the individual after him,
3	both of whose testimony before the same grand jury
4	implicated the plaintiff in a scheme.
5	THE COURT: Was the immunity granted use or
6	transactional?
7	MR. OLICK: Transactional, the broadest kind of
8	immunity. Unlike the Federal Court, the State statutes
9	don't make the distinction between use and transactional.
10	THE COURT: You quoted the granting of immunity
11	and said you cannot be prosecuted for any State violation
12	as a result of your testimony here today.
13	MR. OLICK: That is what he was told, but there
14	is only one immunity and that is transactional immunity.
15	THE COURT: Is that right?
16	MISS McDONALD: I'm not sure of that.
17	THE COURT: Would that bar the Grievance
18	Committee from going out and getting independent evidence?
19	MR. OLICK: If the leads were derived from the
20	grand jury testimony, which was compelled under the grant
21	of immunity, yes.
22	THE COURT: But if the leads were derived from
23	other sources besides the grand jury testimony it could be
24	followed up and used; right?
5	MR. OLICK: Yes, and I have no objection to that.

THE COURT: As things stand now, would your intention be to follow those leads, or are you going to wait for the decision of this Court?

speedy decision here so that we know what is before us, whether we have to proceed with these leads. My own feeling is that these witnesses are going to be hostile. They are individuals who have already been convicted of the crime of perjury relative to this whole scheme. It will no doubt be an involved process and might involve the contempt proceeding to obtain the information that we wished to obtain from these individuals. It might be an unnecessary task and at this point we have simply been awaiting a decision from this Court.

I will reserve decision.

MISS McDONALD: There are few points that I would like to be heard on.

THE COURT: All right.

tended, we feel that the Erdmann case is applicable to our situation. The only difference, as Mr. Olick has pointed out, is that the prosecutors in the Erdmann case where the Appellate Division justices themselves and in our particular case we have been appointed, the Grievance Committee has

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been appointed prosecutors in such situations by the Appellate Division. In other words, we are one step removed from the Appellate Division itself, but we are the arm of the Appellate Division in this regard.

We contend that no distinction should be made; that we are following an administrative function whereas the Appellate Division would be tollowing a judicial role.

It has been held in the Federal cases that the Association of the Bar proceedings are not administrative; that they are quasi-judicial in nature.

THE COURT: What case holds that?

MISS McDONALD: I would have had the case today had I known that Steffel v. Thompson had been raised.

THE COURT: You better write me with a copy to Mr. Olick about those cases.

MISS McDONALD: Yes.

The other point I would like to direct myself to is the contention of the plaintiff that the Grievance Committee has acted in bad faith. I wish to explain the reasons behind the delay, such as it was. That was occasioned in the prosecution of this matter. The first information that the Grievance Committee had concerning the possible connection of the plaintiff in the 1965 and 1966 events came in a newspaper article appearing in the New

York Times in January of 1970. It was simply noted that the plaintiff, an attorney, was mentioned as being part of these events.

Some time after that, and our records are not clear and I was not with the Grievance Committee at that time, the contents of the grand jury testimony were brought to the attention of the Grievance Committee. It was formally done in early 1970 by Francis Rogers. In any event, during 1970 the Grievance Committee knew that all these matters were in the hands of the District Attorney's office, who was prosecuting various individuals involved in this whole scheme.

It is the position of the Grievance Committee and the Appellate Division that the Association of the Bar does not intervene in criminal proceedings even though an attorney is involved. The Association of the Bar should await disposition of matters in Criminal Courts.

Now, the grand jury minutes in question concerned the testimony of some 30 or 40 individuals. They consist of about 1500 pages. They were not available to our Committee until the criminal prosecutions were concluded in those cases.

It is not the practice of the District Attorney's office to let go of its grand jury minutes when it is using

1 CS 46 them in the prosecution of individuals. 2 3 THE COURT: You got those minutes in early 1971? MISS McDONALD: Yes. 4 5 THE COURT: What happened then? 6 .MISS McDONALD: There were two people, as we 7 stated it in our opposing affidavit, who we felt should have 8 priority. Those two individuals were Michael Freyberg and Herbert Itkin. They were two individuals who public-10 ly brought disgrace to the Bar. We felt that these two individuals deserved the --11 THE COURT: What were the proceedings as to 13 those people? 14 MISS McDONALD: There was a petition filed in the Herbert Itkin matter, I believe, in late 1971. 15 was not followed through with because Mr. Itkin eventually 16 17 resigned from the Bar without having that matter prosecuted further. 18 The Freyberg matter was -- we were appointed 19 prosecutors in that matter some time in 1971, but we 20 decided these two --21 22 THE COURT: What do you mean "appointed prosecutor"? 23 MISS McDONALD: Every particular case normally

has appointed prosecutors by the Appellate Division when the

matter is ready to be presented to the Appellate Division.

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THE COURT: What is the procedure?

MISS McDONALD: If an attorney is convicted of a crime --

THE COURT: I will ask you to do this:

I would like you to put in an affidavit the circumstances which you are now describing. I think it should be part of the record. I would like you to include in the affidavit a description of the procedures that take place. I gather there is an original inquiry which is somewhat informal. Then there is a hearing. Then there is a recommendation of it to the Appellate Division. But that is all somewhat vague in my mind and I would like you in your affidavit to specify exactly what happens, exactly what appointments you receive and what authorities you receive from whom, and so forth, and cite it to the rules, if there are rules, because I think that is necessary here and, secondly, I think you ought to explain in your affidavit the chronology you have started to give me.

Third, I think you better deal with the cases cited in the brief. This is really the first time that Mr. Olick has dealt with the abstention problem and I would be glad to have you reply to that, if you want to do it.

MISS McDONALD: Yes.

recent case in the Supreme Court, which deals with the abstention problem, which is more recent than Steffel against Thompson. I don't know whether it has any bearing on our problem. I think one of the names in the title is Allee, and it is quite recent. I think you better look at that. There is a long dissent by Justice Burger, but there is a lot about the Younger problem in that. I think you better look at that and see if it has any bearing on our case.

I think, with that, we might as well terminate the hearing this morning and I will reserve decision pending the further papers.

When can you get your materials in?

MISS McDONALD: I would like until Wednesday,
July 10th.

THE COURT: That is fine. We had a pretty good discussion on the record. I would appreciate the parties ordering the transcript.

All right, we will suspend for now. Thank you very much.

United States District Court Southern District of New York

ANONYMOUS, an Attorney Admitted to Practice in the State of New York,

: 74 Civ. 2398 (TPG)

Plaintiff,

-against-

SUPPLEMENTAL

AFFIDAVIT IN OPPOSITION TO DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO DISMISS

THE ASSOCIATION OF THE BAR OF THE : CITY OF NEW YORK and JOHN G. BONOMI, Chief Counsel, Committee on Grievances of : the Association of the City of New York,

Defendants.

STATE OF NEW YORK) ss.:

COUNTY OF KINGS

MARK A. LANDSMAN, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

- l. I am an attorney duly admitted to practice law before the Courts of the State of New York, the United States
 District Courts, Southern and Eastern Districts of New York, and I maintain law offices at 66 Court Street, Brooklyn, New York.
- 2. In addition I am the duly elected Village Justice of the Village of Atlantic Beach of Nassau County, State of New York.
- 3. This affidavit is submitted at the request of Arthur S. Olick, Esq., a member of the firm of Anderson, Russell, Kill and Olick, attorneys for the plaintiff-attorney and in support of the relief sought for injunctive or declaratory judgment relief against the defendants herein.

Grievances (Exhibit o

- 4. It is sincerely and respectfully the intention of your deponent that the historical facts provided hereinafter may, in some material measure, prove of assistance to this Honorable Court in its deliberations upon the issues presented before it.
- 5. During approximately September of 1968, your deponent was retained by the plaintiff-attorney herein, as his counsel, in connection with a request he received from the office of the District Attorney, County of New York for his appearance to furnish testimony as a witness before the October, 1968 Grand Jury in a matter entitled People v. John Doe; said matter being an inquiry involving a complaint against another attorney, Michael Freyberg.
- in New York County, during October of 1968, your deponent determined that this inquiry was being conducted by Francis J. Rogers, an Assistant District Attorney. After detailed discussions with Mr. Rogers and other officials of the District Attorney's office to the effect that if called to testify before the Grand Jury, the plaintiff-attorney herein would properly invoke his Constitutional privilege against self-incrimination as guaranteed to him by the Fifth Amendment to the United States Constitution, it was agreed that plaintiff-attorney would, if he testified fully, truthfully and cooperated with the state authorities, be granted full transactional immunity.
- 7. However, with the possibility present that some aspect or part of his testimony might cause, or perhaps give rise, to

an interpretation that one or more of the Canons of Professional Ethics appeared violated, your deponent also deemed it necessary and proper to protect his client and to obtain an understanding with and committment from, the District Attorney's Office that they would neither refer the testimony of the plaintiff-attorney to the Association of the Bar of the City of New York nor recommend to such body that any punitive disciplinary action be taken against the plaintiff-attorney, as a result of that State Authority having compelled his testimony to be given under the grant of complete immunity. It was, accordingly, the clear understanding of all parties that the plaintiff-attorney would furnish testimony fully, truthfully and cooperatively without fear of any subsequent criminal or disciplinary prosecutions arising out of such compelled testimony.

- 8. Your deponent, upon information and belief, submits that the plaintiff-attorney was cooperative with the State Authorities and that he did, indeed, testify fully and truthfully; that he never knew, met or spoke with any of the public official targets of the investigation, i.e., Messrs. Freyberg, Itkin or Marcus; and that, in fact, Messrs. Freyberg, Itkin and Marcus also furnished testimony and/or statements to the effect that they never knew, met or spoke with, the plaintiff-attorney.
- 9. Your deponent is further advised that no indictments relating to conspiracy, bribery or any crimes (other than perjury)

were ever returned by the Grand Jury as to any of the parties who gave testimony as to this matter; no crimes, other than false swearing, were charged against any persons in connection with this inquiry into the delaying or blocking of a certain application for a zoning variance before the City Planning Commission.

10. In any event, the facts and circumstances surrounding the promises and immunities granted to the plaintiff-attorney by the authorized representatives of the state authority, are, to the best of my recollection, accurately recited hereinabove and they actually took place and occurred in my presence and as well as in the presence of the plaintiff-attorney.

11. Should this Honorable Court deem as necessary, any further particulars in connection with the foregoing, your deponent will remain available, of course, to so cooperate.

Mark A. Landsman

Sworn to before me this

8th day of July, 1974.

RICHARD I. ROSENKRANZ Notary Public, State of New York No. 31-8656465

Qualified in New York County Commission Expires March 30, 1976

SUPPLEMENTARY AFFIDAVIT IN OPPOSITION TO THE MOTION FOR A PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION AND IN SUPPORT OF THE CROSS-MOTION TO DISMISS

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

ANONYMOUS, an Attorney Admitted to Practice in the State of New York,

Plaintiff,

-against-

DEFENDANTS' : SUPPLEMENTARY AFFIDAVIT

THE ASSOCIATION OF THE BAR OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK and JOHN G. BONOMI, : 74 Civ. 2398 (TPG) Chief Counsel, Committee on Grievances of The Association of the : Bar of the City of New York,

Defendants.

STATE OF NEW YORK

SS.:

COUNTY OF NEW YORK :

MARY Me ALD, being duly sworn deposes

and says:

1. Pursuant the request of the Court during oral argument of this matter on July 3, 1974, I submit this affidavit as 1) an outline of the procedures followed by the Committee on Grievances of The Association of the Bar of the City of New York in the investigation and prosecution of attorneys allegedly guilty of professional misconduct and 2) a particular history of the investigation and prosecution of proceedings against plaintiff and other attorneys involved in a connected scheme of alleged wrongdoing.

PROCEDURES OF THE COMMITTEE ON GRIEVANCES

The Committee on Grievances is a standing committee of The Association of the Bar of the City of New

York. The Committee is not to be regarded as an informal body that acts in disciplinary matters on an ad hoc basis. It is a quasi-judicial body that acts under the By-Laws of the Association, under a well established body of statutory and decisional law, and under the rules and directives of the Appellate Division, First Department. Matter of Branch, 178 App. Div. 585 (1st Dept. 1917); People ex rel. Karlin v. Culkin, 248 N.Y. 475; Section 90, Judiciary Law and Rule 603 of the Rules of the Appellate Division, First Department.

- The Committee has authority to investigate charges of professional misconduct, to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of records, to take testimony under oath, to admonish respondents in appropriate cases and prosecute disciplinary proceedings before the Court. The Committee or its Chief Counsel may initiate any investigation or may undertake same upon complaint by any person. The respondent is required either to submit a written statement concerning the allegations of the complaint or to appear in person, depending upon the nature and complexity of the issues raised. Failure to reply, to cooperate or to be candid is improper, obstructs the necessary work of the Committee and not infrequently results in formal charges that might otherwise not be served. Moreover, in and of itself, it constitutes professional misconduct under the Code of Professional Responsibility and decisions of the Court unl as predicated upon an asserted claim that a response might tend to incriminate, Spevack v. Klein, 385 U.S. 511 (1967).
- 4. A determination that appropriate proceedings be initiated result, in the usual case, in the filing

of formal charges and the scheduling of hearings before a panel of the Committee. In cases concerning crimes involving moral turpitude or where the public interest requires prompt action, a hearing before the Committee is dispensed with and a recommendation is made to the Executive Committee of the Association of the Bar that disciplinary proceedings be instituted directly in the Appellate Division.

- 5. When hearings before the Committee are concluded, the decision of a panel may take one of three forms: it may dismiss, it may admonish or it may recommend further prosecution in the Court. In the latter event the Committee submits a written report to the Executive Committee of the Association and requests authority to continue prosecution in the Court. An admonition by the Committee is, in effect, a censure of the respondent and a suspension of further action. The admonition is administered in private and becomes a part of the files of the Committee. If the respondent becomes the subject of another charge, the previous admonition is then brought to the attention of the panel of the Committee hearing the matter so it may receive weight in its determination as to whether or not to again admonish the respondent or refer the matter to the Appellate Division. If prosecution in the Court is initiated, the fact of the prior admonition is made known to the Court.
- 6. As has already been noted in this proceeding, Counsel to the Committee on Grievances received, under Court order and upon the application of Assistant District Attorney Francis J. Rogers, the transcript of plaintiff's Grand Jury testimony in March 1971. It should be noted that plaintiff's

name was specifically mentioned in such application as one of several attorneys who were under investigation and whose testimony, in the interests of justice, should be brought to the attention of the Committee on Grievances.

- 7. Plaintiff has submitted to this Court the affidavit of MARK A. LANDSMAN, an attorney who represented him when he was called before the New York County Grand Jury. Mr. Landsman indicates that there was an "understanding" between the state prosecutors and himself that plaintiff's testimony, if such were given, would not be referred to the Committee on Grievances. It is most astonishing that such an allegation is now made, some 13 months after the original proceeding in this matter was initiated. Such a contention has never been made before by plaintiff, but in any event the allegation has no effect upon the validity of disciplinary proceedings commenced by the Committee on Grievances.
- 8. Such an understanding, if such were ever reached, could not have been an inducement to plaintiff to testify before the Grand Jury. The fact that the Grand Jury granted plaintiff immunity necessitated his testimony no matter what his so-called understandings were. Plaintiff testified not for lack of fear of referral of his testimony to the Committee on Grievances but because he was compelled to do so and his failure to testify would have resulted in a contempt of court citation. Secondly, plaintiff must admit that the record of the grant of immunity makes absolutely no mention that plaintiff would not be the subject of a future disciplinary proceeding. Lastly, the state prosecutors, being attorneys themselves, must, under the directives of the Code of Professional Responsibility, come forward with evidence or information which indicates professional wrongdoing by another

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exercise no discretion relative to the referral of plaintiff's testimony to the Committee on Grievances.

- 9. Once the Grand Jury transcripts in question were received by Counsel to the Committee, their over 1500 pages were reviewed in detail by Counsels staff. The testimony concerned not only plaintiff, Michael Freyberg and Herbert Itkin, but also involved at least five other New York attorneys whose conduct had to be evaluated.
- and convicted of the crime of perjury in the third degree, a crime involving moral turpitude, a disciplinary proceeding was initiated with Executive Committee approval directly in the Appellate Division without first conducting hearings before a panel of the Committee on Grievances. Counsel for the Committee on Grievances was appointed prosecutor of the Freyberg matter in February, 1971 by the Appellate Division and an order was entered suspending him from the practice of law for three years on November 8, 1973. In every disciplinary matter prosecuted in the Appellate Division, Counsel for the Committee on Grievances is officially appointed prosecutor in order to facilitate reimbursement for its services under Section 90 of the New York Judiciary Law.
- as early as 1966 on a complaint that he had converted escrow funds. Counsel to the Committee was appointed prosecutor on this charge in January, 1968. Subsequent to the commencement of this prosecution, information was steadily accumulated by Counsel to the Committee indicating extensive wrongdoing by Itkin and such information included the Grand Jury minutes in question. Itkin became a witness for the federal government in numerous criminal prosecutions and was eventually removed

from the State and afforded a new identity by federal prosecutors. Such occurences prevented the holding of hearings before a special Referee appointed by the Appellate Division, wowever, with the assistance of federal prosecutors, Itkin's consent was obtained to an order voluntarily striking his name from the roll of attorneys. Such order was entered in October, 1973.

- It was ultimately determined by Counsel to the Committee that there was evidence warranting prosecution of only Freyberg, Itkin and plaintiff and none of the other five attorneys implicated in the scheme to influence public officials. Accordingly, plaintiff was contacted in January, 1973 relative to this matter and a disciplinary proceeding initiated against him in May, 1973. Admittedly, a two year period elapsed from receipt of the Grand Jury minutes until initial communication with plaintiff. It was certainly clear from the original reading of plaintiff's testimony that a disciplinary proceeding must be initiated against him. The delay experienced in initiating same was occasioned chiefly by the fact that numerous other investigations and proceedings were involved therein and plaintiff's prosecution ultimately occurred last. There is no evidence indicating malice or intent to harass by such delay. It was a totally innocent happening which regrettably occurs in an office so overburdened and understaffed as is that of Counsel to the Committee on Grievances. The demands on such office are so overwhelming that some delay is unavoidable while certainly is of no venal character.
- 13. Lastly, for the sake of clarity, it appears necessary to include within this record a statement to the Court as to the basis on which plaintiff was granted a

rehearing before a panel of the Committee on Grievances. Your deponent was privy to the Chairman's decision in this regard and thus has first-hand knowledge as to the reason for granting a rehearing. In March, 1974, Counsel to the Committee discontinued its practice of including information concerning prior discipline in its charge letters and formulated a new procedure of eliciting such information on the cross-examination of a respondent or furnishing such information to a panel after charges of professional misconduct are sustained. Such information must be considered by a panel in reaching a conclusion on whether to admonish a respondent or recommend his further prosecution in the Appellate Division. Since plaintiff had submitted such inclusion of prior discipline as a ground for granting a rehearing such request was approved by the Chairman of the Committe. A rehearing was granted for no other reason and certainly not on the ground that compelled testimony was used as part of the affirmative case against plaintiff. It would be quite incredible to grant a rehearing on such a ground and then initiate a new proceeding based upon the same compelled testimony.

MARY MCDONALD

Sworn to before me this 10th day of July, 1974.

Mary Public

MARION S. NAMM
NOTARY PUBLIC, State of New York
No. 41-8095970
Qualified in Queens County
Commission Expires March 30, 19/0

FURTHER REPLY AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF THE MOTION FOR A PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION AND IN OPPOSITION TO THE CROSS-UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT MOTION TO DISMISS SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

ANONYMOUS, an Attorney Admitted to Practice in the State of New York

: 74 Civ. 2398 (TPG)

Plaintiff,

- against -

THE ASSOCIATION OF THE BAR OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK and JOHN G. BONOMI, Chief Counsel, Committee on Grievances of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York,

FURTHER REPLY AFFIDAVIT
: IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFF'S
MOTION FOR A PRELIMINARY

: INJUNCTION AND IN OPPOSITION TO DEFENDANTS

: CROSS-MOTION TO DISMISS

Defendants.

STATE OF NEW YORK)

SS.:

COUNTY OF NEW YORK)

ARTHUR S. OLICK, being duly sworn deposes and says:

- 1. At the conclusion of the hearing held before
 Honorable Thomas P. Griesa, United States District Judge, on July
 3, 1974, counsel for the defendants was asked to furnish an
 affidavit describing the procedures of the Association of the Bar
 of the City of New York and its Committee on Grievances and to
 further specify the circumstances underlying the instant proceeding before the Bar Association of which plaintiff complains. In
 consequence, the Affidavit of Mary McDonald, Esq., verified July
 10, 1974 was served upon deponent yesterday afternoon and, presumably has now been filed.
- 2. Miss McDonald's Affidavit is misleading and deficient in several important respects. Accordingly, deponent submits the following additional information to the Court for its guidance in determining, most particularly, the sufficiency of

plaintiff's complaint and the applicability of the doctrine of 1078 federal abstention as enunciated in Younger v. Harris, 401 U.S. 37 (1971) and in Erdmann v. Stevens, 458 F.2d 1205 (2nd Cir.) cert. denied, 409 U.S. 889 (1971). Like the several versions of the infamous Watergate tapes, there are glaring differences between the description of Bar Association powers and procedures as set forth in Miss McDonald's Affidavit and in the Bar Association's own written procedures for the conduct of disciplinary proceedings by the Committee on Grievances. The McDonald Affidavit gratuitously describes the Grievance Committee as a "quasi-judicial body", as "an arm of the Appellate Division" and as a "prosecutor". In truth and in fact, the Grievance Committee of the Bar Association has no such power and performs no such function. Its activities are sui generis and its "findings" and "determinations" are not binding in any sense upon the Appellate Division. It functions to recommend or call to the attention of the Appellate Division matters relating to the discipline of attorneys. Only the Court itself has the power to discipline an attorney. As the Erdmann case itself demonstrates, the Appellate Division sometimes acts on its own volition contrary to the "recommendations" of the Grievance Committee of the Bar Association. Even where the Grievance Committee, after securing the approval of the Executive Committee of the Bar Association, calls a matter of discipline to the attention of the Appellate Division, it is the Appellate Division which must authorize any disciplinary prosecution and it is the Appellate Division which proceeds de novo to determine whether discipline is warranted in any particular case. The Appellate Division, if it decides to proceed, usually but not always, designates the counsel to the Crievance Committee as prosecutor in a disciplinary proceeding before the Court but in such proceeding, there is a de novo hearing before a referee.

the administrative-type hearing held before the Grievance Committee. New testimony is taken and an entirely new determination is made on the basis of which the Appellate Divison ultimately determines whether an attorney should be disciplined. In essence, the proceedings before the Grievance Committee are of significantly lesser importance than those before the ordinary administrative agency whose factual determinations are reviewed by a Court only for legal insufficiency or arbitrary and capricious actions. the case of the discipline of an attorney the proceedings before the Grievance Committee have no weight whatsoever.

Annexed hereto as Exhibit "C" and made a part hereof, is a copy of defendants' own "Procedures of the Committe on Grievances". Annexed hereto as Exhibit "D" and made a part hereof, is a copy of defendants' "Confidential Outline of Procedures of the Committee on Grievances" distributed by defendants to all members of the Committee on Grievances. These documents establish beyond peradventure that the proceedings initiated by defendants which plaintiff now wishes to enjoin as violative of his constitutional rights are in no sense judicial in nature and, therefore, do not fall within the proscribed scope of Younger v. Harris and Erdmann v. Stevens. Even a cursory comparison of defendants' Supplementary Affidavit and defendants' "Outline of Procedures" establishes the spurious nature of defendants' claim of federal

obstention: efendants' Supplementary

Affidavit

"It (the Committee) is a ouasi-judicial body that acts under. . "(p.2)

Actual Version in Procedures Manual of the Committee on Grievances (Exhibit "C")

"It (the Committee) is a quasiofficial body that acts under. ·· (p.2)

". . . the procedures of the Committee or its quasi-officia Status parter relevant prost, in of I. And the second of the

Defendants' Supplementary Affidavit

". . . the Committee submits a written report to the Executive Committee of the Association and requests authority to continue prosecution in the Court." (p.3)

". . .to admonish respondents in appropriate cases, and prosecute disciplinary proceedings before the Court." (p.2)

"An admonition by the Committee is, in effect, a censure. . ."
(p.3)

omitted

omitted

omitted

Actual Version in Procedures Manual of the Committee on Grievances (Exhibit "C")

". . . the Committee submits a written report to the Executive Committee of the Association and requests authority to proceed in Court." (p.6)

". . . to admonish respondents in appropriate cases, and (after approval by the Executive Committee of the Association) to initiate and prosecute disciplinary proceedings before the Court."(p.2)

"An admonition by the Committee is in effect, a rebuke. . ."
(p.7)

"It consists of a Chairman and twenty-four members, appointed by the President of the Association. Although the members of the Committee contribute their time and effort as a public service, the Committee's case load is such that for many years it has employed a staff of full-time attorneys, clerks and secretaries. The staff is under the charge of the Chief Counsei, who acts under the direction of the Committee and its Chairman. The cost of maintaining the services rendered by the Committee is quite large: funds for this purpose are provided by the Association ... " (pp. 1 and 2)

"Any inquiry from Counsel should be acknowledged and answered promptly and with complete candor; cooperation with Counsel in conferences is equally essential." (p.3)

"If the charges (of the Committee) are entertained, the Court ordinarily appoints a referee

Defendants' Supplementary Affidavit

Actual Version in Procedures Manual of the Committee on Grievances (Exhibit C)

to hear and report. . .In disciplinary proceedings before the court, neither the Committee nor the referee suggest that any particular form of discipline should be administered. The merely present the facts, and the court, if it sustains the charges, retains the prerogative of determining for itself whether the respondent should be censured, suspended or disbarred. If the court finds that the charges are not sustained, they are dismissed." (p, 6 and 7)

4. The alleged statutory authority of the defendants is largely non-existent. Section 90 of the Judiciary Law of the State of New York makes no mention of the Bar Association or its function in connection with the discipline of attorneys. Section 603.12 of the Rules of the Appellate Division, First Department simply give subpoena power to the Bar Association Committee on Grievances in connection with the conduct of "a preliminary investigation of professional misconduct on the part of an attorney. . . " Significantly, the subpoena may not be issued by the Committee itself but must be issued by the Clerk of the Court in the name of the presiding Justice of the Appellate Division. Moreover, it is only in connection with the confuct of "a preliminary investigation" that the defendants are empowered to "take and transcribe the evidence of witnesses, who may be sworn by any person authorized by law to administer oaths." The actual procedures of the Committee on Grievances are set forth in By-Law XIX of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York which, in pertinent part, states:

- "9. In all proceedings committee, or its subcommittee, sinch and the dismiss or sustain the charges and, can to any charges sustained, shall either admonish the respondent or recommend that such charges be prosecuted in the court."
- "10. If the committee, or its subcommittee, recommends the prosecution of any charges in the courts, it shall submit to the Executive Committee a written report summarizing the charges, the evidence, and the findings and recommendations of the committee or subcommittee. The Executive Committee may take such action upon such report as in its judgment is proper, except that approval of a recommendation of prosecution of charges in the courts shall be by the affirmative vote of a majority of the whole Executive Committee, or two-thirds of the members of the Executive Committee present at the meeting, whichever is greater."
- "11. If the Executive Committee shall approve prosecution of the respondent in the courts, the Executive Committee may appoint, or authorize the President to appoint, one or more members of the Association whose duty it shall be to conduct the prosecution of the respondent under the instructions and control of the Committee on Grievances; the Executive Committee may authorize the Committee on Grievances to make such appointment and conduct such prosecution provided that no expense or liability shall be incurred by the Committee on Grievances for such purpose not previously authorized by the Executive Committee."
- The Executive Committee from time to time shall appoint an attorney to be the Chief Counsel for the Committee on Grievances, and it may also appoint one or more attorneys to be assistants to the Chief Counsel. The Chief Counsel and the assistants shall either be members of the Association at the time of their appointment or shall apply for membership upon their appointment, with their continued employment to be contingent upon their acceptance into membership. The Chief Counsel and his assistants shall perform such services as may be prescribed by the Committee on Grievances or by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall fix the compensation of the Chief Counsel and assistants."

Turning to the particular event underlying the pending proceedings there are several glaring and puzzling inconsistencies in defendants' opposing papers. In waragraph 3 of her Affidavit of June 17, 1974, Miss McDonald stated that an order was entered in the Supreme Court New York County, "authorizing the release to the Committee on Grievances" of certain Grand Jury minutes "all being inquiries involving an attorney, Michael Freyberg, who was convicted of the crime of perjury in the third degree on December 17, 1970." An examination of the Court Order which is annexed to deponent's Reply Affidavit of July 2, 1974 as Exhibit "A", confirms this fact. However, in her Affidavit of July 10, 1974, Miss McDonald implies that the matter of plaintiff's activities was called to the attention of the Bar Association by Assistant District Attorney Francis J. Rogers who allegedly had an obligation to do so under the Code of Professional Responsibility. Of course, the Court Order dated February 4, 1971 relates only to "inquiries involving a complaint against Michael Freyberg, an attorney ... " who had shortly before that date been convicted of perjury before the Grand Jury. Miss McDonald conceded at page 44 of the transcript of the hearing of July 3, 1974 that "the first information that the Grievance Committee had concerning the possible connection of the plaintiff in the 1965 and 1966 event came in a newspaper article appearing in The New York Times in January of 1970." It would have been most helpful had Miss McDonald identified this particular newspaper article since, as deponent stated in his Affidavit of July 2, 1974 [paragraph 6], the only newspaper articles deponent has been able to locate were in or about February of 1969. In any event, the first notice given to plaintiff of any proceeding or activity by the Bar Association was that contained in defendants' letter to plaintiff of January 11, 1973 referring

to a "Newspaper Article". Further, as noted in the Affidavit of Mark A Landsman, Esq., the attorney who represented plaintiff when he was called before the New York County Grand Jury and who dealt with Assistant District Attorney Rogers, the District Attorney's office gave plaintiff to understand that it would not be a party to referring his Grand Jury testimony given under a grant of transactional immunity to the Bar Association for disciplinary proceedings. It appears that there has been a studious effort in this case to conceal from the plaintiff, his counsel and from the Court the manner in which the proceedings against plaintiff were initiated.

5. What is clear is that there is no valid excuse for the inordinate delays in this matter. The operative events took place in 1966. The Grand Jury testimony of the plaintiff was given in 1968. It was in 1969 or 1970 (depending upon whether Miss McDonald's claim of a newspaper article in 1970 can be substantiated) that the Bar Association actually had knowledge of plaintiff's connection with the subject matter concerning which he testified before the Grand Jury. It was in February of 1971 that the subject Grand Jury minutes were actually released to the defendants. Nevertheless, it was not until January 11, 1973 that any proceeding of any kind (formal or informal) was initiated before the Grievance Committee. In her opposing Affidavit of June 17, 1974 (paragraph 20) Miss McDonald suggests that the delay was attributable to "various priorities" established by the Grievance Committee. At the hearing of July 3, 1974 (pages 45-46) Miss McDonald suggested that "it is not the practice of the District Attorney's office to let go of its Grand Jury minotes when it is using them in the prosecution of individuals" and that

the Bar Association had to wait until after the disposition of the Itkin and Freyberg criminal prosecutions before it could proceed. Of course, there has never been any criminal prosecution brought against this plaintiff and this plaintiff, as Miss McDonald well knows, was never even acquainted with Messrs. Freyberg and Itkin and never dealt with them. In any event, all criminal prosecutions against these individuals were concluded late in 1970. Accordingly, Miss McDonald in her most recent Affidavit of July 10, 1974 seeks to explain the inordinate delay on the basis that the Committee on Grievances is "over burdened and under staffed". In other words, defendants now candidly admit that they were "too busy" to get around to the plaintiff until January 1973, five years after the Grand Jury testimony and two years after such testimony was actually in defendants' possession. Certainly, such delays are manifestly prejudicial to the plaintiff and, in and of itself, constitutes bad faith. The inadvertence of counsel for the Bar Association is hardly an excuse when compared with the problems encountered by plaintiff in recalling events, obtaining evidence and securing witnesses. Ordinarily, the law prescribes limitations by statutes or court rule on the bringing of actions and proceedings. Here, there is no such statutory or judicial rule but deponent submits that the ancient doctrines of latches and estoppel are applicable.

ment in Miss McDonald's Affidavit of July 10, 1974 [paragraph 13] respecting the basis on which the plaintiff was granted a new hearing before a panel of the Committee on Grievances. Annexed hereto as Exhibit "D" and made a part hereof is deponent's letter of March 7, 1974 to Powell Pierpoint, Esq., Chairman of the Committee on Grievances. This letter sets forth deponent's

application, on plaintiffs behalf, for a new hearing. Some weeks after March 7, 1974, deponent was orally advised that the application had been granted. No reason for the granting of the application for a new hearing has ever been given to deponent or to plaintiff. The reference to a March 1974 change in Grievance Committee practice is indeed humorous. The change in practice, it is submitted, was instituted directly as a result of deponent's letter of March 7, 1974 [Exhibit "D"] and has never been formalized in writing insofar as deponent is able to ascertain. Apparently, defendants did not wish, for reasons of their own, to test the validity of their procedures of which deponent, on plaintiff's behalf, complained.

WHEREFORE, deponent submits, once again, that the motion to dismiss the complaint for legal insufficiency be denied and that plaintiff's motion for a preliminary injunction be granted. At the very least, the pending action should be considered as one for declaratory relief and, even if injunctive relief is deemed inappropriate, the Court may declare plaintiff right and treat his motion for injunctive relief as one for summary judgment pursuant to F.R. Civ. Proc. 56.

Sworn to before me this lith day of July, 1974

DAME F. THE STATE

OPINION AND ORDER OF THOMAS P. GRIESA, U.S.D.J. Original FILED AUGUST 1, 1974 DENYING THE MOTION FOR A PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION AND DISMISSING THE COMPLAINT

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

ANONYMOUS, an Attorney Admitted to Practice in the State of New York,

Plaintiff,

: 74 Civ. 2398

THE ASSOCIATION OF THE BAR OF THE CITY:
OF NEW YORK and JOHN G. BONOMI, Chief
Counsel, Committee on Grievances of the:
Association of the Bar of the City of
New York,

Defendants.

41049

OPINION

GRIESA, J.

Plaintiff is an attorney admitted to practice in the State of New York, against whom disciplinary proceedings are pending before the Committee on Grievances of the Association of the ar of the City of New York (hereafter "Bar Association"). Defendants are the Bar Association and John G. Bonomi, chief counsel to the Bar Association's Committee on Grievances. Plaintiff has brought this action seeking injunctive relief against the use by defendants in the disciplinary

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proceedings of grand jury testimony given by plaintiff under a grant of immunity. Plaintiff claims that such use of compelled testimony is unconstitutional in violation of his Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination, as made applicable to the states by the Fourteenth Amendment.

Plaintiff has moved for a preliminary injunction. Defendants have cross-moved to dismiss the action on the ground that the complaint fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted. Plaintiff's motion is denied. Defendants' motion is granted.

Facts

History of the Disciplinary Proceedings

At various times in 1967 and 1968 plaintiff testified before the New York County Grand Jury, under a grant of immunity from prosecution, concerning the role he and others played in certain events in 1965 and 1966. Defendants allege that plaintiff admitted to the grand jury that he had participated as an intermediary in negotiations for the transfer of a sum of money intended to unlawfully block, or delay approval

of, an application for a zoning variance then pending before a New York City agency. These alleged activities are the basis of the disciplinary charges presently pending against plaintiff.

Although plaintiff appeared before the grand inry in 1967 and 1968, his name did not come to the attention of the Committee on Grievances, in connection with possible unprofessional conduct, until some time in 1969 or 1970.

On February 4, 1971 defendants obtained an order in New York County Supreme Court authorizing the release of certain grand jury minutes which included the testimony which had been given by plaintiff.

On January 11, 1973 the Committee requested plaintiff to appear at the Committee's office to discuss his grand jury testimony. Plaintiff retained counsel, who requested that he be permitted to submit a written statement by plaintiff in lieu of a personal appearance. The request was granted, and plaintiff submitted a statement dated April 26, 1973 which detailed his role in the events of 1965 and 1966.

On May 31, 1973 the Committee instituted a disciplinary proceeding against plaintiff by serving

on him a written notice of charges of unprofessional conduct concerning the events he testified about before the grand jury. On June 13, 1973 plaintiff submitted an answer admitting certain of the facts alleged by the Committee, but denying any illegal or unprofessional conduct on his part. On June 21, 1973 a hearing was held during which plaintiff's grand jury testimony and his April 26, 1973 statement were received in evidence without any objection by plaintiff or his counsel. Plaintiff/testified on his own behalf, and was cross-examined by counsel for the Committee. The panel of the Committee before whom the hearing was held sustained the charges and recommended that a disciplinary proceeding be instituted against plaintiff in the Appellate Division.

On March 7, 1974 plaintiff, having obtained new counsel, appealed to the chairman of the Committee for a new hearing on the basis of certain procedural irregularities and the admission into evidence of plaintiff's grand jury testimony. A new hearing was granted, but the reasons for doing so were not specified.

On April 16, 1974 plaintiff was served with a new notice of charges. On May 30, 1974, in the course of a hearing on the charges, the panel of the Committee hearing the charges received into evidence, over plaintiff objection, plaintiff's grand jury testimony.

On June 4, 1974 plaintiff filed this action.

Procedures of the Committee on Grievances

The Committee on Grievances is a standing committee of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York. It has authority, derived from Judiciary Law 90, subds. 7 and 8 and Rule 603.12 of the Rules of the Appellate Division, First Department, to investigate charges of professional misconduct, to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of records, to take testimony, to admonish attorneys in appropriate cases and to recommend prosecution of disciplinary proceedings before the Appellate Division.

Where further prosecution is recommended by the Conmittee, and authorized by the Appellate Division, a de novo hearing is held before a referee. The Appellate Division makes findings, and enters an order, based on this new hearing. It appears that, in proceedings before the Appellate Division, counsel for the Committee are usually appointed to act as prosecutors.

Conclusions of Law

Plaintiff contends that use in the disciplinary proceeding of his grand jury testimony, compelled under a grant of immunity from prosecution, violates his Fifth Amendment right against selfingrimination. Defendants contend that a disciplinary proceeding is not a criminal prosecution, and therefore the Fifth Amendment is not applicable. Defendants assert that the New York courts have explicitly held constitutional such use of compelled testimony, Matter of Klebanoff, 21 N.Y.2d 920, 289 N.Y.S.2d 755 (1968), cert. denied, 393 U.S. 840 (1968); Zuckerman v. Greason, 20 N.Y.2d 430, 285 N.Y.S.2d 1 (1967), cert. denied, 390 U.S. 925 (1968), and that various decisions of the United States Supreme Court point to the same conclusion. See, e.g., Gardner v. Broderick, 392 U.S. 273 (1968); Uniformed Sanitation Men Ass'n, Inc. v. Commissioner of Sanitation of the City of New York, 392 U.S. 280 (1968); Garrity v. New Jersey, 385 U.S. 493 (1967); Spevack v. Klein, 385 U.S. 511 (1967).

Plaintiff contends that these Supreme Court cases and other federal court authorities compel the opposite conclusion.

However, it is inappropriate for me to decide this question because I hold that the doctrine of federal court abstention applies, Younger v. Harris, 401 U.S. 37 (1971), and that plaintiff's complaint must be dismissed on this ground.

This result is dictated by the recent decision in Erdmann v. Stevens, 458 F.2d 1205 (2d Cir. 1972), cert. denied, 409 U.S. 889 (1972). In that case the plaintiff brought an action in the federal district court seeking declaratory and injunctive relief against disciplinary proceedings pending against him in the Appellate Division. He claimed that the proceedings were brought with a view to discouraging his exercise of First Amendment rights. The Court of Appeals affirmed the District Court's action in denying an injunction and dismissing the action.

The court held that the abstention doctrine set forth in Younger v. Harris applies to a disciplinary proceeding before the Appellate Division. The court found that such proceedings are judicial, not administrative, in nature. Judge Mansfield, writing for himself

whether the abstention doctrine applies with respect to state civil suits as well as state criminal prosecutions. He found, however, that it was unnecessary to resolve that question since in his and Judge Mulligan's view "a court's disciplinary proceeding against a member of its bar is comparable to a criminal rather than to a civil proceeding." 458 F.2d at 1209. Judge Mansfield went on to characterize such proceedings as "quasi-criminal" in nature. 458 F.2d at 1211. The opinion of Judges Mansfield and Mulligan also stated that the Younger abstention doctrine should be applied because of the unique relationship between the courts of a state and the attorneys admitted to practice before it.

"The relationship between a court and those practicing before it is a delicate one. It would appear axiomatic that the effective functioning of any court depends upon its ability to command respect not only from those licensed to practice before it but also from the public at large. It requires little vision to appreciate that if a state court were subject to the supervisory intervention of a federal overseer at the threshold of the court's initiation of a disciplinary proceeding against its own officer, the state judiciary might suffer an unfair and unnecessary blow to its integrity and effectiveness." 458 F.2d at 1210.

Judge Lumbard, in a concurring opinion, stated:

"While these principles [of abstention] were stated in cases involving state criminal proceedings, I believe that they apply with equal force to proceedings regarding the conduct of members of the state bar." 458 F.2d at 1213.

opinion by Judge Oakes in Tang v. Appellate Division,
487 F.2d 138, 146 n.4 (2d Cir. 1973), cert. denied,
42 U.S.L.W. 3555 (Apr. 1, 1974) as indicating that
Erdmann may no longer be valid in light of the
Supreme Court's recent decision in Gibson v. Berryhill,
411 U.S. 564, 575-577 (1973). But it would appear
that Gibson is distinguishable from Erdmann, since in
Gibson the disciplinary proceeding sought to be enjoined
was before the state Board of Optometry, not any court
or any committee acting under powers granted by a court.

It might be argued that the recent case of

Blouin v. Dembitz, 489 F.2d 488 (2d Cir. 1973), departed

to some extent from the rationale of Erdmann. In Blouin

Judge Smith, in an opinion joined by Chief Judge Kaufman
and Judge Oakes, stated:

"But we do believe that the particularly stringent formulation of that doctrine in Younger should be limited, at least until the Court instructs otherwise, to cases involving traditionally

criminal proceedings." 489 F.2d at 490-491.

However, the fact remains that there has been no express overruling or disapproval of Erdmann by the Second Circuit or the Supreme Court. Clearly I am bound by Erdmann.

Plaintiff contends that there is an illogic in defendants' position that, on the one hand, the Fifth Amendment protection against self-incrimination does not apply to a disciplinary proceeding because such proceeding is nature, and, on the other hand, the Younger abstention doctrine applies because such a proceeding is criminal in nature. If there is an anomaly here, plaintiff's position is at least as difficult. Plaintiff argues that a disciplinary proceeding should be held criminal in nature to permit application of the Fifth Amendment privilege, but non-criminal to prevent application of Younger.

These problems are interesting to consider, but they do not detract from the controlling force of Erdmann, which dictates that I must abstain from interference with the pending disciplinary proceedings against plaintiff. It should be noted, as indicated

by the quotations above, that <u>Erdmann</u> does not rest solely on the theory that a disciplinary proceeding is comparable to a criminal action, but relies in part on the theory that the courts of a state have a unique interest in their relationship with attorneys practicing in those courts, and the federal courts should be reluctant to interfere with that relationship.

Plaintiff contends that Erdmann can be distinguished from the present case, because there the disciplinary proceeding was before the Appellate Division, whereas here the disciplinary proceeding is before the Committee on Grievances. He contends that the present proceedings are not a pending state judicial proceeding, and therefore the considerations of equity, comity and federalism underlying the abstention doctrine do not apply. Steffel v. Thompson, U.S. 42 U.S.L.W. 4357, 4360 (March 19, 1974).

This contention must be rejected. The court in Erdmann described the closely related role of bar associations and the Appellate Division in disciplinary proceedings as follows:

"Under § 90(2) of the New York Judiciary Law (McKinney's Consol. Laws, c.30, 1968) the Appellate Division of each judicial department in the state is given the exclusive power to resolve issues as to alleged

misconduct of attorneys practicing , . within its jurisdiction. To implement this power it is vested with authority to hold a hearing to determine the facts of the alleged misconduct and to apply to them the relevant standards of conduct laid down in the Code of Professional Responsibility. Although the court, for practical reasons, invokes the assistance of bar associations and their committees to investigate and conduct hearings with respect to complaints regarding members of the bar, just as a federal court may employ special masters to hear and report, Rule 53, F.R. Civ. P., the disciplinary power continues to rest exclusively with the court." 485 F.2d at 1209.

Thus the Erdmann decision recognizes that a bar

association committee acts to assist the state court,
and derives it power from that court. A disciplinary
proceeding commenced by a bar association committee and
continued before the court is all part of one judicially
ordained process. I would find it arbitrary to have the
rule of the Erdmann case applicable to proceedings
actually before the Appellate Division, but not
applicable to proceedings at the bar association stage.

I note that <u>Wiener v. Weintraub</u>, 22 N.Y.2d 330, 292 N.Y.S.2d 667 (1968), holds that a letter, addressed to a bar association grievance committee and containing accusations against an attorney, is the

initiation of a judicial proceeding and therefore absolutely privileged against a claim of libel.

Plaintiff further contends that the doctrine of abstention should not apply, because it is futile for plaintiff to pursue his constitutional argument in the state courts. Plaintiff argues that the New York courts have conclusively ruled that grand jury testimony compelled under a grant of immunity is admissible in a disciplinary proceeding. Matter of Klebanoff, 21 N.Y.2d 920, 289 N.Y.S.2d 755 (1968), cert. denied, 393 U.S. 840 (1968); Zuckerman v. Greason, 20 N.Y.2d 430, 285 N.Y.S.2d 1 (1967), cert. denied, 390 U.S. 925 (1968). However, I cannot concede the futility of resort to the "traditional method of obtaining adjudication of federal constitutional questions arising out of ... disciplinary proceedings" -i.e., state court action followed by request for Supreme Court review. See Erdmann, 458 F.2d at 1211. I cannot concede that such a process is futile as to any really meritorious federal constitutional claim.

There is a further reason why federal intervention at this time is inappropriate. Defendants claim that, in failing to object to the use of his grand jury testimony at the first committee hearing in 1973, plaintiff waived any Fifth Amendment claim he may have had. On the other hand, plaintiff asserts that there was never any intention to waive any claims. This factual issue, if determined adversely to plaintiff, might moot the broader constitutional issue of whether testimony compelled under a grant of immunity may be used in a disciplinary proceeding. It would seem appropriate to permit the state courts to pass on this waiver issue.

Plaintiff claims that the court should nonetheless intervene since the disciplinary proceeding is brought in bad faith. See Younger v. Harris, 401 U.S. 37, 54 (1971). Plaintiff claims that there was a two-year delay in initiating the disciplinary proceeding from the time the grand jury transcripts became available. But such a delay hardly amounts to the kind of bad faith and harassment, with no hope of ultimate success in the prosecution, which the courts have found necessary to justify making an exception to the general rule of abstention. E.g., Dombrowski v. Pfister, 380 U.S. 479 (1965).

Plaintiff raises an additional argument about bad faith. Plaintiff asserts that at the time he was granted immunity, prior to testifying before the grand jury, the District Attorney's office led him to believe that the testimony would not be referred to the Committee on Grievances, nor would the District Attorney's office recommend to the Committee that disciplinary action be taken. However, I conclude that this argument does not raise the kind of "bad faith" issue referred to in the abstention cases. This argument raises another factual and legal issue appropriate for decision in the state courts -- i.e., the scope of the agreement made with plaintiff at the time of his testimony.

Conclusion

Plaintiff's motion for a preliminary injunction is denied, and defendants' motion to dismiss the complaint is granted.

So ordered.

Dated: New York, New York July 31, 1974

THOMAS P. GRIESA

U.S.D.J.

NOTICE OF APPEAL (Filed August 27, 1974)

131a

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK RECEIVED AUG 27 1974

GRIEVANCE COMM.

NOTICE OF APPEAL

74 Civ. 2398 (TPG)

ANONYMOUS, an Attorney Admitted to Practice in the State of New York,

:

:

Plaintiff.

-against-

THE ASSOCIATION OF THE BAR OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK and JOHN G. BONOMI, Chief Counsel, Committee on Grievances of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York,

Defendants.

SIR:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that ANONYMOUS, an Attorney Admitted to Practice in the State of New York, plaintiff above named, hereby appeals to the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit from the opinion and order of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, Hon. Thomas P. Griesa, Judge, dated July 31, 1974, and docketed on August 1, 1974, and the judgment entered thereon dismissing the plaintiff's complaint herein and denying plaintiff's motion for a preliminary injunction and from each and every part of said opinion, order and judgment.

Dated: New York, New York August 26, 1974

Yours etc.,

ANDERSON, RUSSELL, KILL & OLICK, P.C., Attorneys for plain fiff

A Member of the Firm

Office and Post Office Address:

630 Fifth Avenue New York, N.Y.10020

(212) 397-9700

TO: John G. Bonomi, Esq., Attorney for defendants

US COURT OF APPEALS: SECOND CUCIRCUIT

Indez No.

ANONYMOUS, Plaintiff-Appellant,

against

THE ASS: OF THE BAR OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK, Defendants - Appellant. Affidavit of Personal Service

STATE OF NEW YORK, COUNTY OF NEW YORK

...

I, Victor Ortega,

being duly suom,

deposes and says that deponent is not a party to the action, is over 18 years of age and resides at

1027 Avenue St. John, Bronx, New York

That on the 12th day of October

1974 at 36 W. 44th St., New York

November

deponent served the annexed

appendix

upon

Bar Association of New York

in this action by delivering a true copy thereof to said individual personally. Deponent knew the person so served to be the person mentioned and described in said papers as the Attorney(s)

herein,

Swom to before me, this 12th

day of November

19 74

Print name beauth signature

VICTOR ORTEGA

ROBERT T. BRIN

NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF NEW YORK

NO. 31 - 0418950

QUALIFIED IN NEW YORK COUNTY COMMISSION EXPIRES MARCH 30, 1975

